

St. Andrew's C of E Junior School Newsletter



15th September 2023 Issue 1

Executive Head Teacher: Mrs K.Smith
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Diary Dates

Mon 18th Sept
Clubs start
3.30pm—4.15pm

Weds 20th Sept
Year 4 & 5 Parents information
evening

Thursday 21st Sept
Year 3 & 6 Parents information
evening

Weds 27th Sept
Harvest Festival
St Martin's Church—1pm

Weds 4th Oct—Fri 6th Oct
Year 6 Robinwood Trip

Tuesday 10th Oct
Parent Consultation Eve
3.45pm—5.45pm

Weds 11th Oct
Parent Consultation Eve
3.45pm—5.45pm

Thursday 19th Oct
Year 6 Robinwood Presentation

Fri 20th Oct
Year 3 & 4 Disco
3.30pm—4.45pm

Year 5 & 6 Disco
4.45pm—6.00pm

See full diary dates on page 6

Headteacher's Message



I hope that you all had a wonderful summer break and that the first week back has gone smoothly.

I want to say a warm welcome to all of our new starters to St. Andrew's Junior School. It's really important to us that your child feels happy and well cared for in our school so please do speak to us if your child needs some more support with settling in. When I have walked around school, it has been a pleasure to see pupils engaged in their learning and getting back into their usual classroom routines.

Our lunchtime clubs started this week and are a great way of pupils getting to know others around school. They also provide a quieter space for pupils who prefer to be away from the playground. After school clubs start on Monday. I'd like to thank the staff for voluntarily giving up their personal time to run these clubs. We know how much they benefit the pupils and the positive impact they have.

We have a few new members of staff who have joined our St. Andrew's team.

We would like to welcome Miss Gledhill who is our new class France teacher; Miss Thompson who is our new TA in class France; Mrs Brown who is one of our teachers in class Italy, Ms Large who has joined our cleaning team and Mr Hawkes who is our new caretaker. You might see him in the morning or after school.

I look forward to working with you all this year.

Mrs Jocelyn, Head of School



Dear Lord,

Use my eyes to see new friends,
open my ears to hear my teacher,
open my mind to learn new things.

Let my heart remember you are near
when I'm afraid.

Help me to love others like you do.

I want to shine your light so bright
in my school.

Amen.

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

Parent Information Evenings

Next week we are hosting our Parent Information Sessions on Wednesday (Years 4 and 5) and Thursday (Years 3 and 6). All parents and carers are welcome to attend. During the sessions, parents will have the opportunity to see their child's classroom and meet their new teacher. Teachers will discuss the year group learning expectations for the year and there will be the chance for you to ask any questions you may have.

We hope to see you there.

Wednesday 20th Sept Year 4: 4pm

Wednesday 20th Sept Year 5: 5pm

Thursday 21st Sept Year 3: 4pm

Thursday 21st Sept Year 6: 5pm



School start times

Our school day starts at 8.50am. It is expected that all pupils are in school for this time. The teachers kindly (and voluntarily) open the doors ten minutes early (at 8.40am). This is to allow for a less congested playground and a smooth start to the morning. It enables pupils to come into the classroom without the cloakroom being too busy. It also means that there is still plenty of time to get to the Infant School for any siblings who need dropping off as the Infant doors open at 8.50am and shut at 9am. Please **do not arrive at school before 8.40am**. Children will not be supervised by staff in the playground during this time. Some pupils are arriving at school very early and so we ask that parents and **pupils arrive between 8.40 and 8.50am**. Thank you.

Harvest Festival—St Martin's Church

All families are invited to attend our Harvest Festival service at **St. Martin's Church on Wednesday 27th September**. We ask that parents/carers come at **1pm** ready for the children to start at 1.15pm. Please do not arrive before 1pm as we may still be setting up the seats in church.

Throughout the week we ask that children bring in donations to go to Brighthouse Central Foodbank. Donations could include toiletries, tinned food, pasta, rice, biscuits, cereals etc. Please avoid sending in fresh produce and check the use by dates too. Donations are voluntary as we do not want any family to go without. If you feel that you would benefit from support from Brighthouse Central Foodbank, please speak to either Mrs Jocelyn or Mrs Brearley. Any support provided will be confidential.



General Information

Mobile Phones



Children in Years 5 and 6 are permitted to bring in a mobile phone if this is completely necessary. Phones should only be brought into school if the child is walking to or from school alone and they need it to contact an adult at home. Mobiles must be turned off before entering the playground and must not be turned back on until the child has left the playground. Any phones brought into school must be handed in to the class teacher where they will be kept in the class cupboard. School cannot be held responsible for any lost or damaged phones. If a pupil chooses to not follow the rules, the phone will be taken to the main office and a parent or guardian will need to collect it. We ask that you do not encourage your child to bring in a phone as they can cause unnecessary issues in school.

Bikes and scooters

Children may travel to school on a scooter or bike. Any child wanting to bring these must bring them via the playground and put them in the bike racks by Year 5. Any pupils coming to school on a bike or scooter must wear a helmet. Any without a helmet will be asked not to bring their bike or scooter. Pupils must not ride through the playground. They must walk their bike or scooter to the bike rack. This is because the playground can be extremely busy and also because there is a steep drop at the end (by Year 5) which could cause some injuries.



Trading cards

Pupils can bring in football or Pokemon cards to play with at playtime but we ask that they do not trade with their peers in school. This is to avoid any fallouts over trading.



Children in Years 3 / 4

Please can we remind parents and carers that children in Years 3 and 4 must be picked up by a responsible adult at the end of the school day. Children in Years 5 and 6 may walk home unaccompanied by an adult but we ask that the office are informed of this arrangement.

School Uniform

We think that our pupils have returned to school looking very smart in their school uniform. Part of getting an 'Always Badge' is by ensuring pupils have the correct uniform daily.

A gentle reminder that pupils should wear a white shirt or white polo shirt under a school jumper or cardigan. We ask that pupils do not wear blue t-shirts or shirts as this is not part of our uniform policy.

We have introduced the new PE hoodies with the school logo on. These are optional for PE lessons. We just ask that children do not wear sports wear with logos on for PE. We ask that children do not have their hair coloured, nails painted or wear any make up. See our uniform policy on our website for more information.

We keep our children safe by



. having Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs). Our Safeguarding Leads are Mrs Jocelyn, Mrs Brearley and Mrs Helliwell. They are available for our children and parents to speak to if there are concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing. Mrs Brearley and Mrs Jocelyn are in the playground in the morning before school and there to listen to any concerns or worries you may have.



Mrs Jocelyn (DSL)



Mrs Brearley (Deputy DSL & Senior Learning Mentor)



Mrs Helliwell (Deputy DSL & Learning Mentor)

Year 6 Secondary School Application Deadline



IMPORTANT

The deadline for **Y6 parents/carers** to complete the secondary school application is **31st October 2023**. Please click on the link below for those who live in Calderdale.

<https://www.calderdale.gov.uk/v2/residents/education-and-learning/schools/admissions>

Please note that pupils who live outside of Halifax (e.g. Huddersfield or Bradford postcode) need to apply through the Local Authority where they live and **NOT CALDERDALE**.

Children from St. Andrew's Junior School are listed high on Brighouse High's Admissions Criteria, however, I must stress the importance of completing the application form online on time to guarantee a place at Brighouse High School.

Dates for 2023 Secondary Schools Open Evenings

Lightcliffe Academy 21st Sept 5.30-8pm

Brighouse High 5th Oct 5.30-7.30pm

Rastrick High 28th Sept 5.30pm-8pm

PTA

Our PTA are a group of parents who come together to organise events and fundraising opportunities throughout the year. This year we have planned for school discos, the Christmas fayre, mother's day stalls and many more. These events are not possible without the valuable support the PTA offers. We are down to only a few members and need your help.

Our next meeting will be **Monday 18th September at 3.30pm** in school (in China room). Children of parents attending can wait outside the room and play together whilst the parents meet Mrs Jocelyn and discuss the upcoming plans.

Some members of the PTA take on responsibilities for the finances and organising the events whereas others commit to attending the events and helping out on the day. It's up to you how much or little you contribute.

Join the PTA!



Term Dates 2023—2024

Autumn Term 2023	
<i>Staff Training Day (school closed to pupils)</i>	<i>Monday 4th September 2023</i>
<i>Staff Training Day (school closed to pupils)</i>	<i>Tuesday 5th September 2023</i>
School re-opens	Wednesday 6 th September 2023
School closes for Half Term	Friday 27 th October 2023
<i>Staff Training Day (school closed to pupils)</i>	<i>Monday 6th November 2023</i>
School re-opens	Tuesday 7 th November 2023
School closes for Christmas	Friday 22 nd December 2023
Spring Term 2024	
School re-opens	Monday 8 th January 2024
School closes for Half Term	Friday 9 th February 2024
School re-opens	Monday 19 th February 2024
School closes for Easter	Friday 22 nd March 2024
Summer Term 2024	
School re-opens	Monday 8 th April 2024
<i>May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)</i>	<i>Monday 6th May 2024</i>
School closes for Half Term	Friday 24 th May 2024
<i>Staff Training Day (school closed)</i>	<i>Monday 3rd June 2024</i>
School re-opens	Tuesday 4 th June 2024
School closes for Summer	Friday 19 th July 2024
<i>Staff Training Day (school closed)</i>	<i>Monday 22nd July 2024</i>



Diary Dates Autumn Term 2023/2024



EVENT	DATE
School Re-opens	Wednesday 6 th September 2023
Clubs start	Monday 18 th September 2023
Parent Information Evening in school	Wednesday 20 th September 2023 – Y4 @ 4:00pm Y5 @ 5:00pm
Parent Information Evening in school	Thursday 21 st September 2023 – Y3 @ 4:00pm Y6 @ 5:00pm
Harvest Festival at St Martin's Church	Wednesday 27 th September - 1pm
Robinwood Y6 Trip	Wednesday 4 th - Friday 6 th October 2023
Parent's Consultation Evening (in school)	Tuesday 10 th October 2023 @ 3:45 pm – 5:45 pm
Parent's Consultation Evening (in school)	Wednesday 11 th October 2023 @ 3:45 pm – 5:45 pm
Year 6 Robinwood Presentation	Thursday 19 th October 2023 @ 9:05am
Year 3 and 4 disco	Friday 20 th October 2023 @ 3:30 pm – 4:45 pm
Year 5 and 6 disco	Friday 20 th October 2023 @ 4:45 pm – 6:00 pm
School Photographs (Individual)	Wednesday 25 th October 2023
Infant School Open Day for 2024 Reception Parents	Thursday 26 th October 2023 @ 10:00am – 12:00pm & 1:30pm – 4:30pm
Junior School Open day for Reception Parents 2024	Thursday 26 th October 2023 @ 10:00am – 12:00pm & 1.30pm – 4.30pm
ALWAYS Assembly	Friday 27 th October 2023 @ 2:45pm
School Closes for Half Term	Friday 27 th October 2023
Training day	Monday 6 th November 2023
School Re-opens	Tuesday 7 th November 2023
Anti-Bullying Week	Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th November 2023
Children In Need (Non-uniform)	Friday 17 th November 2023
DT Week - Textiles	TBC
Nasal Flu Spray (whole school) – School Nurse Team	Tuesday 21 st November 2023
St Andrew's Day Assembly (no parents)	Thursday 30 th November 2023 @ 1:00pm
Non-Uniform Day (donations for Xmas Raffle)	Friday 1 st December 2023
Christmas Post Box opens	Monday 4 th December 2023
Christmas Jumper Day	Thursday 7 th December 2023
Christmas Fair	Friday 8 th December 2023 @ 3:30pm – 4:45pm
Christmas Production (Year 3) – children only/Year 2	Tuesday 12 th December 2023 @ 10:00am
Christmas Production (Year 3) – parents	Wednesday 13 th December 2023 @ 1:30pm
Christmas Production (Year 3) – parents	Wednesday 13 th December 2023 @ 6:00pm
Year 3 Christmas Classroom Party	Monday 18 th December 2023 @ 1:00pm
Year 5 Christmas Classroom Party	Tuesday 19 th December 2023 @ 1:00pm
Carols @ St. Martin's Church	Wednesday 20 th December 2023 @ 1:15pm
Christmas Lunch – Children only	Thursday 21 st December 2023 (To be confirmed)
Year 6 Christmas Classroom Party	Thursday 21 st December 2023 @ 1:00pm
Promoting Excellence sheets sent home to parents	Thursday 21 st December 2023
Year 4 Christmas Classroom Party	Friday 22 nd December 2023 @ 1:00pm
ALWAYS Assembly	Friday 22 nd December 2023 @ 2:45pm
School closes for Christmas	Friday 22 nd December 2023
School re-opens	Monday 8 th January 2024

Guidance to parents – Back to School Social Media Posts

Are you a parent/carer taking photos of your little ones starting or returning to school?

REMEMBER, take a moment to check your privacy settings before sharing and keep personal information personal!

#backtoschool #noschoollogo
#nohousenumber #nofriendsfaces

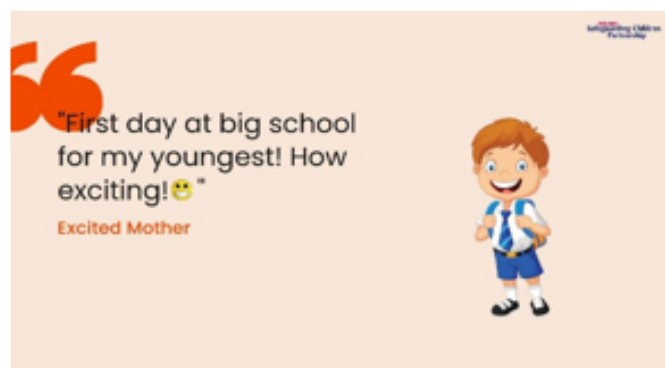
OR

Does your child have a personalised backpack? Do they have a keyring on their school bag with their name or initials on it?

This information is personal to your child & sharing a photo which includes it could be dangerous.

Keep personal information personal.

#backtoschool



When posting your child's #backtoschool photos, remember:

- Hide/blur out the school logo
- Ensure only your child's face is in the photo
- Don't include personal details for example house numbers, school name, street names, etc

#backtoschool #keepitpersonal
#safeguarding

OR

Posting a photo of your child returning or starting school may not be too revealing if you've ensured their safety.



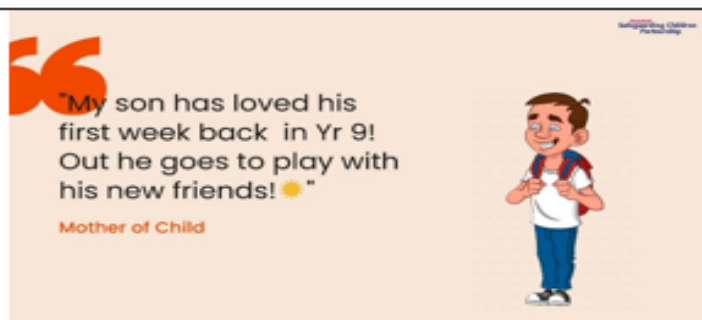
However, information you put in the caption may be more harmful than you know.

~~#noschoollogo~~ ~~#nostreetnames~~
~~#keepitpersonal~~ ~~#backtoschool~~

Everyone's proud of their children, but there are ways to be proud and sensible at the same time.

Protect your child by not revealing information that is personal to their school, home or the area they live in.

~~#keepitperson~~ ~~#safeguardingchildren~~
~~#backtoschool~~



If you are posting ~~#backtoschool~~ pictures of your child, stay safe.

Do not mention their name or the school's name.

Keep the logo of the school hidden.

Check your privacy settings to protect your child.

Don't post photos of other people's children.

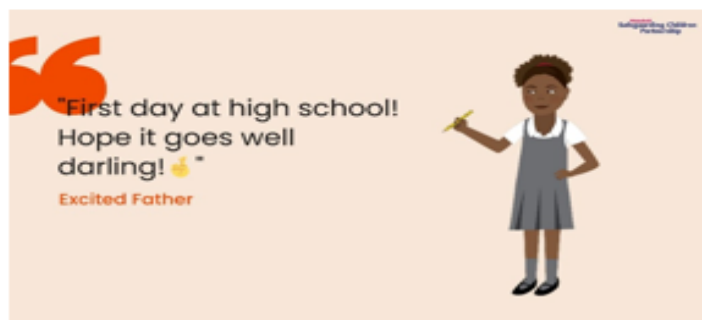
~~#safeguardingchildren~~

OR

Posting a photo of your child returning or starting school may not be too revealing if you've ensured their safety.

However, information you put in the caption may be more harmful than you know.

~~#noschoollogo~~ ~~#nostreetnames~~
~~#keepitpersonal~~ ~~#backtoschool~~



Additional links:

Surrey Police:

[How To Keep Your Kids Safe When Sharing Back-To-School Photos On Social Media | HuffPost UK Parents](https://www.huffpost.com/uk/parents/how-to-keep-your-kids-safe-when-sharing-back-to-school-photos-on-social-media)
(huffingtonpost.co.uk)



West Yorkshire
Fire & Rescue Service

Halifax Fire Station Open Day

Adults £2
Children Free

Saturday 16th September, 11am - 3pm

Halifax Fire Station, Skircoat Moor Rd, Halifax HX1 3JF



Entertainment for all the family...

- Food & Drink Stalls
- Small Rides
- Face Painting
- Demonstrations by WYFRS
- Special guest from Halifax Panthers



All proceeds to....





Love your school lunch!

Our PhunkyFoods Healthy Lunch message highlights to children the importance of choosing a healthy, well balanced school lunch; whether that's a hot school meal or a packed lunch brought in from home.



School meals & the School Food Standards

In July 2013 the School Food Plan was published by the Department for Education. As part of that plan a new set of standards for all foods served in schools was launched and became mandatory from January 2015. In September 2014 universal free school meals (UFSM) were introduced to all infant pupils across England.

Evidence has repeatedly shown that school meals are of higher nutritional quality than packed lunches, and universal free school meals do appear to improve primary school educational attainment - so why not give them a try? If your child(ren) hasn't tried it already, or it's been a while since they tried school meals, perhaps it's time to give them a go?



Packed lunches

Many parents opt to send their child(ren) to school with a packed lunch. The first thing to consider is whether or not your school has a packed lunch policy, and these come in all sorts of shapes and sizes, but they are generally put in place for very positive reasons.

- For example:
- to promote consistency between packed lunches and foods provided by school
 - to make a positive contribution to children's health, or;
 - to encourage children to be calmer and on-task during the afternoons.



Further information:

- www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes
- www.phunkyfoods.co.uk/parent/a-healthy-lunch-parents-information/
- <http://whatworkswell.schoolfoodplan.com/articles/category/1/the-food>

www.phunkyfoods.co.uk



Love your packed lunch!

Create a healthier packed lunch by choosing foods from the 5 main food groups below:



1 Starchy Carbohydrates

to re-fuel your body

Base your lunchbox on starchy carbohydrates.

Choose ONE EVERY DAY from:

- ✓ Bread, rolls, bagels, wraps, pitta or baguettes
- ✓ Pasta
- ✓ Couscous
- ✓ Noodles
- ✓ Potatoes



Choose wholegrain



Use a thermos flask to keep pasta warm



Get kids involved in the choosing/making

2 Fruit and Vegetables

to keep you healthy

Pack one portion of fruit and one portion of veg every day

Choose TWO EVERY DAY from:

- ✓ Apple, banana, pear, orange, plums
- ✓ Small pot of mixed berries or grapes
- ✓ Prepared melon or mango
- ✓ Chopped vegetable sticks: carrots, cucumber, pepper, celery, mange tout, mini corn
- ✓ Salad vegetables
- ✓ Vegetable Soup



Add salad to your sandwiches



Use a thermos flask for delicious soups

3 Dairy and Alternatives

for healthy teeth and bones

Don't forget the dairy!

Choose ONE EVERY DAY from:

- ✓ Milk
- ✓ Cheese - hard cheese, soft cheese, cheese spread
- ✓ Yoghurt or Fromage Frais
- ✓ Custard



Choose low sugar dairy products



Reduce sugar: choose plain yoghurt and have fruit on the side

4 Protein Foods

for growth and repair

Pack a protein punch!

Choose ONE EVERY DAY from:

- ✓ Meat
- ✓ Fish
- ✓ Eggs
- ✓ Non-dairy protein e.g. lentils, chick peas, beans

Keep processed meat to a minimum



Choose oily fish like salmon once every 3 weeks



5 Drinks

to rehydrate your body

✓ A large glass of water

✓ Semi skimmed milk - or skimmed milk for children over 5 years.

✓ 150ml of fresh unsweetened fruit juice/smoothie



Milk, water or 150ml juice

Occasionally!

Meat products such as sausage rolls, pies, sausages
Plain cakes/sponges and biscuits of appropriate portion sizes



For more healthy packed lunch ideas and recipes visit www.phunkyfoods.co.uk/recipes

www.phunkyfoods.co.uk