

St. Andrew's C of E Junior School Newsletter



23rd February 2024 Issue 8

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Diary Dates

Wednesday 6th March

Mother's Day Stall

Thursday 7th March

World Book Day

Tuesday 12th March

Parent's consultation evening 1

School Hall

3.30pm—6.30pm

Friday 15th March

Red Nose Day

Wed 20th March

Easter Service at

St Martins Church from
1.00pm

Wed 20th March

Parents Consultation Evening 2

3.30pm - 6.30pm

Friday 22nd March

Always Assembly

Friday 22nd March

School closes for Easter



Headteacher's Message

This half term we are learning about the value of Respect. Our children have the opportunity to lead our whole school collective worship and have already been leading collective worship at our Infant School. It's lovely to see the children building in confidence, learning how to present to a large audience, and learning what to include in a collective worship. Well done to all of the pupils who have taken the leap of faith so far. Hopefully these pupils will inspire others to also do the same.

This week I have been reflecting on what we have done to support our Caring, Christian vision.

- 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

I have seen pupils being **aspirational** as some have entered the West Yorkshire Cross Country Finals! I have seen children being **confident** as we have had a large number of children try out new instruments with Marshalls School of Music.

I have seen an incredible amount of **Inclusivity** as our pupils have welcomed new children into their classes this week. They have gone out of their way to include children in games in the playground. Our aim to be **aspirational** for all our pupils was shown throughout our World of Work Day for our Year 5 and 6 pupils. Pupils reported having learnt so much about the different careers available in our local area.

Mrs Jocelyn, Head of School

School start times

Our school doors open at 8.40am and close at 8.50am. Any children arriving after the bell has gone (at 8.50am) should enter school through the main entrance. Whilst they will not get a late mark until registration is closed, it's important that the children arrive during this ten minute window. This allows time for our pupils to settle into class well with their peers and have a relaxed start to the day. I would encourage parents and carers who struggle to make this time to speak to either myself or Mrs Brearley to see if we can help with your child's punctuality.

Being punctual also helps your child to achieve their Always Badge.



Dear God,
 Help me spend today,
 and every day with a
 smile on my face, love
 in my heart, joy in his
 grace and my thinking
 cap on all day!

Amen

School Dinners/Meal Patterns

Following a few spot checks we have found some children are going through for a school dinner who should be bringing a packed lunch from home. We will continue to monitor this at regular intervals and parents will be informed. We do appreciate that on the odd occasion children will forget their lunchbox and in these instances a school meal will be provided and the appropriate charge made to the child's account. If your child would like to alter their dinner patterns you must complete a form which can be obtained from the school office. We require 1 week's notice for the change to take place.



We keep our children safe by

... reminding our parents / carers about the importance of keeping safe online as concerns have been raised again about the use of Roblox amongst children and young people in Calderdale. Internet matters have created a [guide for parents on Roblox](#) which explains how you can support your child/ren to use it safely.

We would encourage any parent whose child plays on Roblox to look up the guide as there's some very helpful information on it.



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

Snow and winter weather

Should we have severe snow which would impact on the school closing for the day, school will follow our Emergency Closure Procedures. A text message will go to parents and our website will also be updated. Please assume that if you have not received a text to tell you otherwise or seen information on our website, that school is open as usual.

Should weather conditions deteriorate during the day, and a decision is taken by the Head of School to close, you will receive a text message to inform you of this along with details of where and when to collect your child. We appreciate your co-operation with school in the event that this decision is taken.



Red Nose Day

On Friday 15th March we will be raising money for Red Nose Day. We are asking that parents of children in Years 5 and 6 bring in buns for a bake sale.

Children in all year groups will be able to buy a bun.

They will be sold by our pupils at 50p each.



Cross Country Finals

Congratulations to Jasmine Mellad in Class India who competed in the West Yorkshire Cross Country finals at Temple Newsam yesterday.

She was up against runners from Wakefield, Kirklees, Leeds and Bradford.

What a star she placed 11th!!



Chat around the table



With World Book Day fast approaching this is a chance to learn about new and interesting authors and books that children might never have heard of before.

Chat to your child about who their favourite author is.
What's their favourite book and why?



Dental and eyesight checks

Just like we encourage our families to ensure children get their teeth checked at the dentist every 6 months, we encourage you to get your child's eyesight checked annually. Pupils eyesight is usually checked as they enter school in Reception Class but it is not checked in school after this time. Having a child's eyesight checked at the opticians is free.



Swimming Lesson reminder for Class Canada and Class Italy

Week commencing 26th February is Water Safety

Week for our children during their swimming lesson.

They will need to bring to school along with their usual swimming kit a pair of long sleeve and long bottom pyjamas for their lesson.

Class Canada—swimming lesson is Tuesday

Class Italy—swimming lesson is Thursday



Parking



Please can we politely remind parents and carers not to use the Zig Zag parking areas directly outside the school entrance for parking, dropping off or collecting your child please.



World Book Day

This year's World Book Day is on **Thursday 7th March**.

We love to celebrate this at St Andrew's as we strive to promote reading for pleasure for all our children.

All children will be given a £1 book voucher which can be used to redeem a World Book Day book.

There's a great selection of books this year, which are available in your local book shop and some supermarkets.

Competition time!

The theme for this year is '**Read Your Way**', so we are running a competition. Children can send in pictures of themselves reading in their own way - this could be in a strange place, with someone or something unusual - anything goes! The winner from year 3/4 and year 5/6 will receive a £10 gift voucher. Please send your pictures by email on or before Wednesday 6th March to office@standrews.calderdale.sch.uk

For World Book Day itself, children can dress up as a book character. Another option is to dress as a word. This means that you don't need to spend a fortune or hours of your time on making a costume. For example, a child could come as the word 'blue' and wear all blue. We thought carefully about this and asked the children what they wanted to do, and the overwhelming majority wanted to continue our tradition of dressing up. As always, children are welcome to come in their uniform if they do not wish to dress up.

We're all looking forward to another great World Book Day and I can't wait to see all your entries for the competition!

Mrs Clarke



RESPECT

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value RESPECT. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TALK ABOUT RESPECT TOGETHER...

We are learning at school about the importance of treating others with **respect** even if we sometimes do not agree with the way they behave or the things they say. We have also been thinking about how we should treat the things that belong to us and to other people **respectfully**.

- Think of some practical ways that you show **respect** to each other in your family.
- Often we show **respect** to someone by the way we speak to them. What does this mean in practice?
- Do you treat one another's possessions with **respect**? What does this mean in practice?

THINK TOGETHER ABOUT WORDS OF WISDOM

"Respect - to get it you must give it"
Anon



READ TOGETHER...

Moses and the Burning Bush

Moses led the sheep across the dry and dusty desert to Sinal, God's holy mountain. But in the stillness of the wilderness, while the sheep were grazing, Moses' thoughts were never far from the plight of his people the Israelites, who were suffering at the hand of the cruel Egyptian king. Moses had left Egypt years ago. He felt guilty and wished he could help his people, but what could he do? He was not brave, he was not a **respected** leader. Who would listen to him?

And then in the distance Moses noticed something very strange. A desert bush was on fire. The flames licked hungrily around the branches and yet, strangely, the bush did not burn up. He drew closer and as he did so, he clearly heard a voice call to him from the bush, "Moses, Moses!" "Yes, here I am" stammered Moses. "Take off your shoes", said the voice, "for you are standing on holy ground." Reverently, Moses untied his sandals and fell to his knees. "I am the Lord God of your ancestors and I have seen how my people suffer under Pharaoh. I have heard them call out to me to rescue them and now Moses, I am sending you to lead them to freedom." "But I am nobody, I am nothing. How can I go to the king and expect him to **respect** a simple shepherd? How can I ask him to let the people go?" But God replied, "Do not be frightened, I will be with you." "But what if the people will not listen to me?" said Moses. "What do you have in your hand?" "A stick." Moses replied. "Throw it on the ground." Moses did as he was asked. To his astonishment the stick turned into a writhing, angry snake. "Now bend down and pick it up by the tail." Nervously, Moses did as he was asked. Immediately, the snake once more became a stick. "When you perform this miracle," said God, "the people will believe that I have sent you. Take the stick with you for with it you will perform great miracles. Now go and do as I have commanded."

And so it was that on that ordinary day an extraordinary adventure began for Moses and for the people of Israel. It was a story that the world would never forget.

©The story based on Exodus 3-4



QUIZ Tangled Strings

Which stick became the writhing snake?



An American Indian Tale

Adahy was a good father and as his young son, Kuruk, grew up he proudly taught him all that he knew. In time, Kuruk married and brought his new wife to live in Adahy's home.

Soon they had a baby son, Elan. As Elan grew older his grandfather, Adahy, began teaching the young boy all that he knew and Elan learned to **respect** the forest, its animals and all the different plants. As years passed by Elan's mother begrudged sharing her home more and more with the old man until in anger one day she told her husband that Adahy must leave.

Kuruk was horrified, "I can't make him go, this is his home and he built it for us." Angrily his wife replied "If you do not make the old man go then I will be off and I'll take our son, Elan, with me."

Kuruk knew he had been left with no choice, but he felt so guilty he couldn't bring himself to tell the old man himself. Instead he told Elan to take his grandfather far away, deep into the forest and leave him. "Give him this blanket to keep him warm", he said. Elan was horrified. "But I love and **respect** Grandpa. He has taught me all that I know. How can I do such a thing?"

His father replied, "Elan, just do as I've asked."

So the next morning, thinking they must be going hunting, Adahy followed Elan deep into the forest. When the old man could walk no further and stopped to take a nap, the boy, with tears streaming down his face turned back and left Adahy sleeping. That evening as Elan returned, Kuruk and his wife saw the blanket. Elan explained, "I gave Grandpa half of the blanket.

The other half, I will give to you some day."

His mother and father understood the message. They went straightaway and fetched Grandpa.



HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

Who do you respect?

Draw or paint a picture of your chosen person and make a frame to surround it. On the reverse give 5 reasons why this person is worthy of special **respect**. The picture can then be hung in the school Challenge Gallery.



FAMILY FOCUS

Respect Detectives

It is important to show the same **respect** to other people that we would wish to be shown to us. It is also important to **respect** the built environment as well as the natural world.

Go on a family walk in your village or town. Look around for signs that people **respect** the places where they live by looking after property and public spaces.

- Can you see any graffiti?
- Do dog owners clean up after their dogs?
- Do you notice litter anywhere?
- Are public facilities left clean and tidy – ie benches, telephone kiosks, toilets?

Write to your local council to let them know the results of your survey.



FASCINATING FACTS

Religious communities often treat their holy books with great reverence and **respect**. They believe the holy book contains God's teaching.

- Christians believe that the Bible is God's word to his people. They show **respect** and reverence by treating the Bible carefully. In some churches the Bible has a special stand called a lectern, from which it is read during worship.



- Orthodox Jewish men wear a kippah to cover their heads, as a sign of humility and **respect** towards God. The Torah scrolls are kept in a closed cabinet called an Ark and when reading them a pointer, yad, is used to follow the script so that the scrolls are not touched by hands.



- Muslims keep their holy book, the Qu'ran, covered and in a clean place, not on the floor nor with anything placed on top. To show **respect** and reverence they only handle the book with clean or gloved hands.



- Sikhs cover their heads and remove their shoes before going into a room housing their holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib. To show **respect** and reverence nobody sits higher than the Guru Granth Sahib and no alcohol is ever taken into the room.





Safety Alert

Calderdale
Council

Infectious Diseases – Advice from Public Health

What can you do to protect yourself and others?

We've all learnt through the pandemic that the risk of infectious diseases increases in the winter as we all spend more time together indoors, allowing viruses to spread more easily. This year, we've seen increases in some other infectious diseases as well as COVID-19. It's important we are all aware of this and what we can all do to protect ourselves, our families, colleagues, service users and communities.

Measles

Measles is the most contagious of all the airborne viruses. During 2023, there was a large increase in the number of people confirmed as having measles and we've seen an increase in measles in West Yorkshire over recent months.

Since last summer, Public Health been working with health services, nurseries, schools and colleges to make sure we are ready to prevent measles spreading further when we have cases in Calderdale.



Many of us don't think about measles; we don't know anyone who has had it because it was almost eradicated in the UK due to the measles vaccination introduced in the UK in 1968. The UK Health Security Agency estimate that 20 million measles cases and 4,500 deaths have been prevented in the UK since the vaccine was introduced.

It's never too late to get the MMR vaccine. Two doses give lifelong protection against getting measles and passing it on.

Watch the following [video](#) to discover the signs and symptoms to look out for and how you can protect yourself and your family.

Flu

Flu is more prevalent this winter than recent years. Nationally, there are three times as many people in hospital with flu than last year. The most recent data shows that our local hospital has one of the highest numbers of people in hospital with flu in the region. There are more than twice as many people in local hospitals with flu than COVID-19 at the moment. We also currently have outbreaks of flu in a small number

of Calderdale care homes.

Flu symptoms come on very quickly and can include a sudden high temperature, an aching body, feeling tired or exhausted, a dry cough, a sore throat, a headache, difficulty sleeping, loss of appetite, diarrhoea or tummy pain, feeling sick and being sick.

For most of us, flu will get better on its own, but it can make some people seriously ill, especially elderly people and pregnant women. That's why it's important to get the flu vaccine if you are offered it.

If you have flu, rest and sleep, keeping warm, taking paracetamol or ibuprofen to lower your temperature and treat aches and pains and drinking plenty of water can help with your symptoms and recovery.

If you think you have flu, you should stay away from work for 4-5 days after your symptoms develop and at least 24 hours after your fever has gone. This is important to prevent you passing it on to others.

Norovirus (winter vomiting virus)

Norovirus, sometimes called the winter vomiting virus, is a very unpleasant self-limiting illness which usually goes away in two days. However, it can be more serious in babies and frail older people.

The symptoms come on very quickly and usually include feeling sick, diarrhoea and being sick. If you have norovirus, rest and drinking fluids are the best ways to manage the symptoms.

It's important to stay off work or school until at least 48 hours after the symptoms have stopped to reduce the risk of the virus being passed on to others.

You should avoid visiting anyone in hospital during this time. Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water, particularly after using the toilet and before preparing or handling food.

If you work in an early years or residential care setting (for people of any age) and one of the children / residents is suspected to have measles, flu or norovirus, please let public health know using this email address: healthprotection@calderdale.gov.uk. The team can give advice about who needs to be notified and the steps that can be taken to prevent the virus spreading.

