



# St Andrew's Catholic Primary School

To Live, Love and Learn together, as Witnesses for Christ

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Instagram - Standrewsschoolb92



Our Lady and All Saints  
Catholic Multi Academy Company  
Strong in Faith

Twitter X - StAndrewsOLAAS

Friday 23rd January 2026

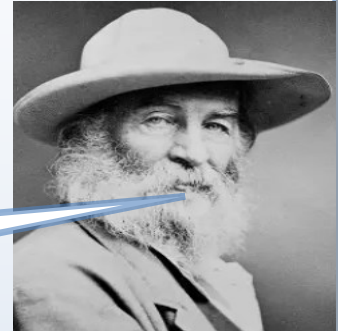
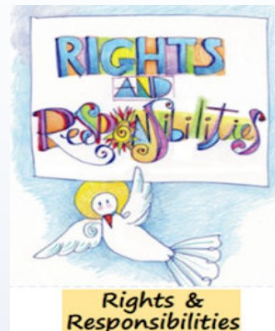
attentive loving hopeful  
faith-filled wise curious  
generous grateful  
eloquent discerning  
intentional compassionate  
truthful active

This half term we are learning to be Curious and Active.  
Curious about everything and taking increasing responsibility for our own learning; and active in our engagement with the world, changing what we can for the better.

attentive loving hopeful  
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Our Catholic Social Teaching focus for this half term is...



Be curious, not judgemental.

(Walt Whitman - American Poet)

In the words of Pope Leo XIV...



Every day can be the beginning of a new life, thanks to God's generous love, his mercy, and the response of our freedom.



On Thursday 7th May, school will be closed to allow the building to be used as a polling station. This arrangement has been in place in previous years and will continue this year. School operations will resume on Friday 8th May.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.



A reminder to parents and pupils that long hair should be tied up while at school, and makeup should not be worn as part of our school uniform policy. We appreciate your continued support in helping us maintain these standards.



This week we enjoyed a wonderful Epiphany Pilgrimage, where the children took part in a meaningful journey following the star, just as the Wise Men did, to find Jesus.

As we moved together on our pilgrimage, we reflected on the story of Epiphany and the importance of seeking and recognising Jesus in our lives. It was a special and prayerful experience that allowed everyone to engage thoughtfully with this important moment in the Church's calendar.



We love sharing and celebrating all of the wonderful things happening in an around school linked to learning and achievements of your children, so if you are not yet following us...head over to Instagram and give our page a follow!

You'll have a peek into our Catholic Life, learning, achievements, friendships and fun, that we are so very proud of!

Instagram- Standrewsschoolb92

# New KS2 Prayers

## Morning Prayer

**O Jesus,  
through the most pure heart of Mary,  
I offer you all my prayers,  
thoughts, works and sufferings of this day  
for all the intentions of your most Sacred Heart.  
Amen.**



## Grace Before Meals

Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts  
which we are about to receive  
from your bounty.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## Grace After Meals

We give you thanks, Almighty God,  
for all your benefits,  
who live and reign, world without end.  
Amen.



## Prayer at the end of the day

Lord Jesus Christ, as we come to the end of this school day,  
Help us to reflect and to pray:  
For the difficulties I have known, I ask for your help.  
For the blessings I have received; I thank you.  
May I seek to be an instrument of your peace in my home today.  
Each day is a gift. May I look forward to a new start tomorrow.  
May the journey of my life be an experience of your love,  
your compassion, your forgiveness and your peace.  
Amen.



# Term Dates



## School Year 2025 / 2026

### Autumn term 2025

Term Starts: Monday 01 September 2025

Half Term Holiday: Monday 27 October 2025 to Friday 31 October 2025

Term Ends: Friday 19 December 2025

End of Term Holiday: Monday 22 December 2025 - Friday 02 January 2026

### Spring term 2026

Term Starts: Monday 05 January 2026

Half Term Holiday: Monday 16 February 2026 to Friday 20 February 2026

Term Ends: Friday 27 March 2026

End of Term Holiday: Monday 30 March 2026 - Friday 10 April 2026

### Summer term 2026

Term Starts: Monday 13 April 2026

(May Day: Monday 04 May 2026)

Half Term Holiday: Monday 25 May 2026 to Friday 29 May 2026

Term Ends: Friday 17th July 2026

### INSET Days

Monday 1st September 2025

Friday 24th October 2025

Monday 5th January 2026

Monday 23rd February 2026

Monday 13th April 2026

Thursday 7th May 2026

# Important Dates

Date	Year Group	Event
Sun 1st February	Year 6	Confirmation Commitment Mass at 11am
Fri 6th February	All	PTA Sweet Tooth Sale
Fri 13th February	All	PTA £1 dress in red or pink day
Fri 13th February	All	Break up for Half term
Mon 23rd February	All	INSET DAY- School not open to Children
Tue 24th February	All	Children return
Fri 27th February	All	PTA Meeting
Tue 10th March	All	Individual School Photos
Fri 13th March	All	PTA Mother's Day Boutique
Fri 27th March	All	PTA Easter Disco & non uniform day
Fri 27th March	All	Break up for Easter Holidays
Mon 13th April	All	INSET DAY- School not open to Children
Tue 14th April	All	Children return
Fri 17th April	All	PTA Summer Fair bottle donation & non uniform day
Fri 24th April	All	PTA Break the rules day
Thu 7th May	All	INSET Day- Closed for Voting
Saturday 9th May	Year 3	First Holy Communion at 12pm
Thu 21st May	Year 6	Trip to the Cathedral
Fri 22nd May	All	Break up for Half term
Mon 1st June	All	Children return
Tues 23rd June	Year 6	Confirmation at 7pm
Mon 6th July- Wed 8th July	Year 6	Year 6 Residential

## PE Days

Monday	Nursery, Year 3 & Year 6
Tuesday	Year 2 & 4
Wednesday	Year 2, 3 & 4 -Swimming
Thursday	Reception, 1 & 5
Friday	Year 1, 5 & 6



# Attendance and Punctuality



Our KSI attendance winners were Reception.

Our Key Stage 2 attendance winners were Year 6.

Punctuality Winners: Year 5

Well done for the brilliant Attendance and Punctuality this week.

Class	Attendance	Unauthorised Absence. Excl Holidays
Reception	99.31%	0
Year 1	95%	0
Year 2	98.33%	0
Year 3	97.93%	0
Year 4	93.33%	0
Year 5	97.41%	0
Year 6	100%	0
Class	Lates before registers close	Lates after registers close
Reception	7	0
Year 1	4	0
Year 2	1	0
Year 3	3	0
Year 4	5	0
Year 5	0	0
Year 6	5	3

## ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY – EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

Being in school **every day and on time** is vital for children's learning, wellbeing **and safety**. We understand that mornings can be difficult for some families, and we are committed to working **supportively and proactively** to help every child attend regularly.

### IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDING REMINDER – FIRST DAY CONTACT

**School must be contacted on the FIRST day of absence.**

If we have **not heard from a parent by 9:30am**, school will make contact to ensure your child is **safe and well**.

If we are unable to make contact, the **Educational Welfare Officer (EWO), Lynette**, will be informed and further checks may be made, including a home visit if required.

## LATES ADD UP – MORE THAN YOU THINK

Arriving late has a real impact on children's learning and emotional wellbeing.

**Just 10 minutes late every day means:**

- **50 minutes of learning missed each week**
- **Over 30 hours missed across a school year**

**✗** The equivalent of **almost a full week of school lost**

Lateness can also be unsettling for children and affect confidence, routines and friendships.

## WE ARE HERE TO HELP

If attendance or punctuality is becoming difficult, **please talk to us early**. Support is available through:

- **Mrs Brady – Child & Family Support Worker & Attendance Lead**
- **Educational Welfare Officer**
- **Inclusion Team**

**Family Hubs**, offering drop-in sessions and practical support for families who are struggling

Please refer to the **timetables sent out last week**, or contact Mrs Brady to discuss how we can support your family.

## MONITORING & WORKING TOGETHER

We monitor attendance closely and track patterns carefully. Where attendance falls below expected levels, families may be invited to meet with school and the EWO so that we can **work together to improve attendance**. Term-time holidays cannot be authorised except in exceptional circumstances, in line with school policy and government guidance.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to the many families who ensure their children attend school **every day and arrive on time**. Your commitment makes a huge difference to learning, wellbeing and success.

# Nursery

A fulfilled and very busy week in Nursery this week!

We have celebrated Epiphany and Pilgrimage Day by joining up with Reception to do lots of fun activities such as a 'Follow the star treasure hunt', Making King crowns and Roleplaying visiting Bethlehem.

Also this week the children have not let the wet weather stop them in their outdoor learning, they have explored their physical upper strength, working together, turn taking and mark making skills by using a skateboard/rope and chalk.

In Maths this week we have been using our bodies and musical instruments to count beats/claps/steps and jumps.

The children have also used junk modelling materials to create a rocket for baby bear to go to the moon as our story this week was 'Whatever next' by Jill Murphy all about a bear who wants to go to see the moon.

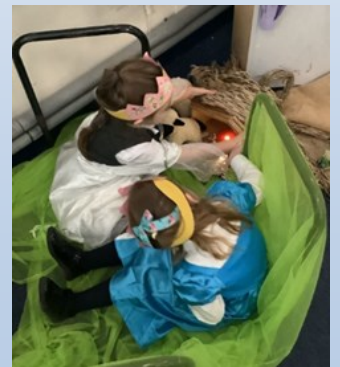


# Reception

Reception have had lots of fun this week, especially during our Epiphany Pilgrimage! We journeyed through Bethlehem, just like the wise men, following the star which lead us to the stables.

We sung songs and used different instruments to celebrate this. The children enjoyed dressing up, and role playing in King Herod's castle! We also got up to lots of fun in our construction area this week, where the children decided to build 'a cinema' and 'school' using their imagination.

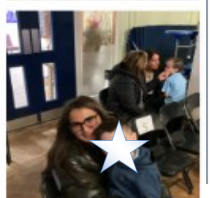
Towards the end of the week we introduced the 'Giant's kitchen' which will lead nicely into our focus on Jack and the beanstalk next week.



# Year One

Year 1 led our whole school mass beautifully on Thursday.

They read and sung beautifully and should be truly proud of themselves, you are a credit to St Andrews!



# Year Two

Year 2 have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in our Epiphany pilgrimage day, where they followed the star around the school and engaged in a range of reflective and interactive activities.

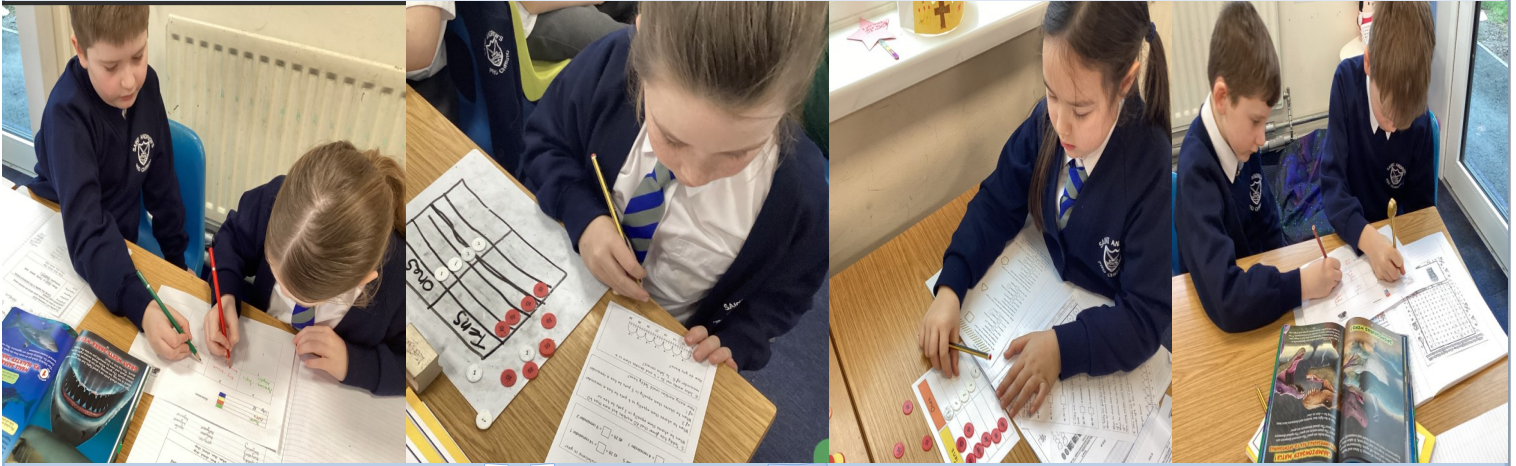


Alongside this, Year 2 have been very busy in science this week, carrying out a hands-on investigation to test different materials. The children explored whether materials could bend, stretch, or squash, carefully observing and discussing their results.



# Year Three

This week in Year 3, the children have been developing their skills across the curriculum. In Maths, they have been dividing two-digit numbers, using practical strategies to support their understanding. In English, they have been exploring poetry by writing their own alliteration and similes, choosing imaginative language to make their poems more engaging and expressive.



# Year Four

What an exciting and creative week it has been in Year 4!

In Art, the children explored still life using their own personal props and learned how to use tone and shade to create a 3D effect in their artwork. In RE, we marked Epiphany with a whole-school day reflecting on the journey of the Wise Men and how they were guided by the Light of the World. The children took part in a range of prayerful, creative and reflective activities, helping them to explore the meaning of Epiphany and the importance of recognising Jesus as the Light of the World.

A wonderful week of learning - well done, Year 4!



# Year Five

Year 5, alongside the whole school, took part in an Epiphany Pilgrimage Day. The children rotated around different classrooms taking part in activities which linked to celebrating the Epiphany.

The children focused on why Jesus is the light of the world, created lanterns and reflected on how they can shine like Jesus. They learnt all about the 3 wise men and created crowns to symbolise the kings. Furthermore, the children took part in a prayer and liturgy service where they discussed and learnt about the gifts given to Jesus and why they were given.



# Year Six

Year 6 had a fantastic day on Tuesday together with the rest of the school following the journey of the Wise Men and embarking upon a pilgrimage round school to mark the feast of the Epiphany.

We have also enjoyed debating in our English lessons, the photos show our face to face stand offs...we may have some future politicians amongst us!



# UPCOMING EVENTS

*SPRING TERM*



JAN

16th - Summer fair gift donation  
& non-uniform day



FEB

6th - Sweet Tooth Sale  
13th - £1 dress in red or pink day  
27th - PTA meeting



MAR

13th - Mother's Day Boutique  
27th - Easter Disco & non-uniform day



APR

17th - Summer fair bottle  
donation & non-uniform day  
24th - Break the rules day

**BREAK  
RULES**



# Midland Schoolwear

[www.midlandschoolwear.co.uk](http://www.midlandschoolwear.co.uk)

ONLINE SHOP AVAILABLE

## WE STOCK A COMPLETE RANGE OF

- Official School Uniforms
- Trousers, skirts, blouses, shirts and jumpers.
- Sportswear and Swimwear
- Boys & Girls Footwear, Trainers, Football Boots and Plimsolls
- Brownies, Rainbows, Cubs, Beavers and Scout Regulation Uniforms
- Leavers' Hoodies, Fleece Jackets, Reversible Fleece Jackets,
- Corporate Wear - available for small / large businesses, nurseries, tradesmen, clubs and teamwear.
- On site embroidery service (We offer a complete design and logo setup, embroidery service in store.)
- Garment Printing



**Embroidery Service Available.**  
**Student Foundation Trust Grants / Vouchers Accepted**

**0121 707 2033**

Shop 9, 1160 Warwick Road, Acocks Green, B27 6BP