



# St Andrew's Catholic Primary School

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

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Instagram - Standrewsschool692



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

Twitter X - StAndrewsOLAAS

Friday 6th February 2026

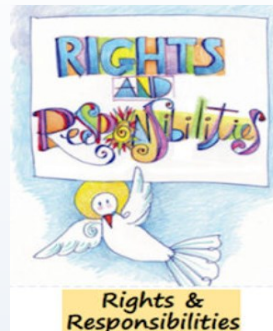
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curious  
wise  
grateful  
discerning  
compassionate  
active  
truthful  
loving  
attentive  
faith-filled  
generous  
eloquent  
intentional

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.

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



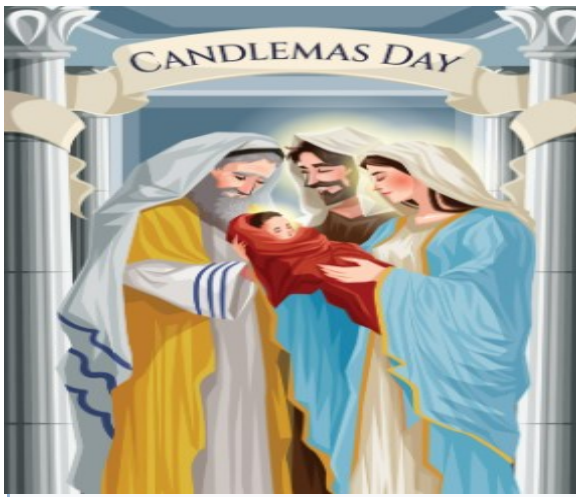
I think the most important thing is to keep active and to hope that your mind stays active.

(Jane Goodall - British Ethologist)

In the words of Pope Leo XIV...



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



On Tuesday, our hall became a sacred space of warmth and reflection, inviting us to pause and recognise the light that is brought by people around us.

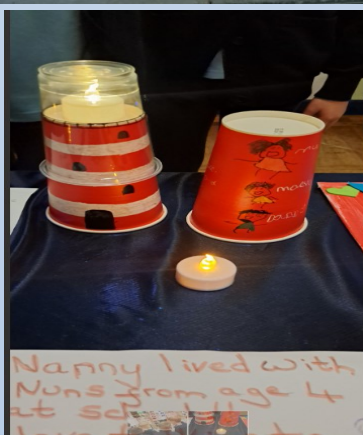
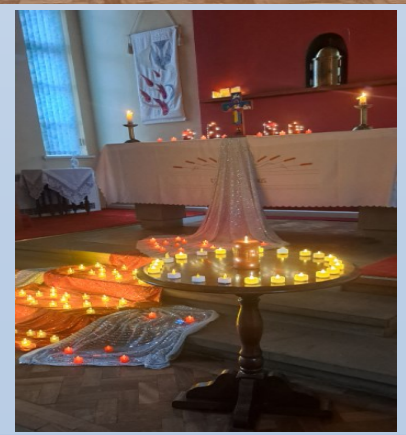
It was joy to welcome our community into our Candlemas Gallery and to share in such a meaningful occasion.

Candlemas reminds us of the light of Christ - revealed, shared, and carried into the world through ordinary lives. It was deeply moving to honour the people who bring light into the children's lives: through compassion, service, quiet acts of love and being their role models.

The gallery felt illuminated not only by candlelight, but by gratitude and hope.

We give thanks for all who joined us, for the conversations shared, and for the spirit of fellowship that filled the space. May the light we celebrated continue to shine in our hearts and guide us in the days ahead.

We look forward to welcoming you again soon.





There were plenty of very happy faces around school today as our PTA treated us to a fantastic cake sale! The tables were filled with delicious treats, and it was wonderful to see the excitement (and smiles) as children chose their cakes.

A massive thank you goes to our families for your donations and our fabulous PTA, who generously gave up their time to come into school and make the sale such a success!



On Tuesday next week, we will be celebrating Mardi Gras in school, as the actual day will be during half term. To help us mark the occasion, children are invited to come to school wearing something yellow or gold, purple, or green (or a combination of these colours) instead of their usual uniform.

During the day, the children will be learning about Mardi Gras, taking part in a special lesson about the celebration, and creating their own festival procession. It promises to be a fun and colourful day of learning together!

There is no requirement to buy anything new - a simple splash of colour is perfect.

Well done to our Year 6 boys who have been representing the school in the local basketball league. The team have shown fantastic teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout their matches, competing with confidence and pride. Their positive attitude on and off the court have been a real credit to the school. We are incredibly proud of all their efforts!



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.



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
Wed 11th February	All	Parents Evening 3.45-6.15pm
Thu 12th February	All	Parents Evening 3.45-6.15pm
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
Mon 9th March	Reception and Year 1	Animal man
Tue 10th March	All	Individual School Photos
Fri 13th March	All	PTA Mother's Day Boutique
Wed 18th March	Year 4	Trip to Cadbury World
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 5.

Punctuality Winners: Year 2

Well done for the brilliant Attendance and Punctuality this week.

Class	Attendance	Unauthorised Absence. Excl Holidays
Reception	98.62%	0
Year 1	94.33%	0
Year 2	96.67%	0
Year 3	97.93%	0
Year 4	96.33%	0
Year 5	98.52%	0
Year 6	95.81%	0
Class	Lates before registers close	Lates after registers close
Reception	7	0
Year 1	8	0
Year 2	0	0
Year 3	4	0
Year 4	7	0
Year 5	4	0
Year 6	7	0

## 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

Another fantastic and busy week for Nursery!

We have been learning all about Paddington Bear this week. We have focused our learning and activities around the story of Paddington Bear visiting London. We have looked at London's famous landmarks and explored the country Peru, where Paddington is from. We have painted Paddington in his blue coat and red hat, packed our suitcases using our cutting and sticking skills and practised our Literacy skills writing labels.

The children have really enjoyed their outdoor learning this week from sand/mud play to mark making with lots of different writing materials, we have also been investigating our maths using scales to weigh natural materials, using language such as light and heavy.

In PE this week the children have gone on a yoga bear hunt adventure, using their bodies to go through mud/a snowstorm ect.. it was so much fun!



# Reception

What a fantastic week we have had in Reception! Some of the children have really enjoyed playing outside, where they worked together to build a huge tower using a variety of resources.

Our focus story this week has been Billywise, a story about a young owl who is scared to leave his nest. The children completed some excellent writing linked to the story, including creating a list of the things Billywise had in his nest.

As a class, we also drew different parts of the story together and shared key words, which we wrote on a large sheet on the floor. Finally, we took time to reflect on our new display featuring your wonderful Baptism photos - thank you so much for sending these in!



# Year One

This week, Year 1 planned and led their own prayer and liturgy, focusing on God's love growing in us.

The children shared thoughtful prayers and reflected on showing kindness to others.

They enjoyed exploring The Three Billy Goats Gruff through storytelling and role play, and in Art they created paper structures, experimenting with folding and joining techniques. The children also had fun playing with real-life, old-fashioned toys, sparking curiosity and imaginative play. We have had such a busy, fun filled week. Well, done year 1!



# Year Two

This week in Year 2, we have been busy identifying odd and even numbers and learning how to divide by 10.

We have really enjoyed our maths learning and even made up our own song to help us remember which numbers are odd and which are even!

Ask them at home, they may sing for you!



# Year Three

This week in RE, Year 3 explored the Parable of the Talents. Through role play, the children learned that God speaks to us today through the Bible in parables and reflected on the messages these stories teach us. In Maths, the children have been developing their measuring skills by understanding millimetres, centimetres and metres, and applying this knowledge through lots of practical measuring activities.



# Year Four

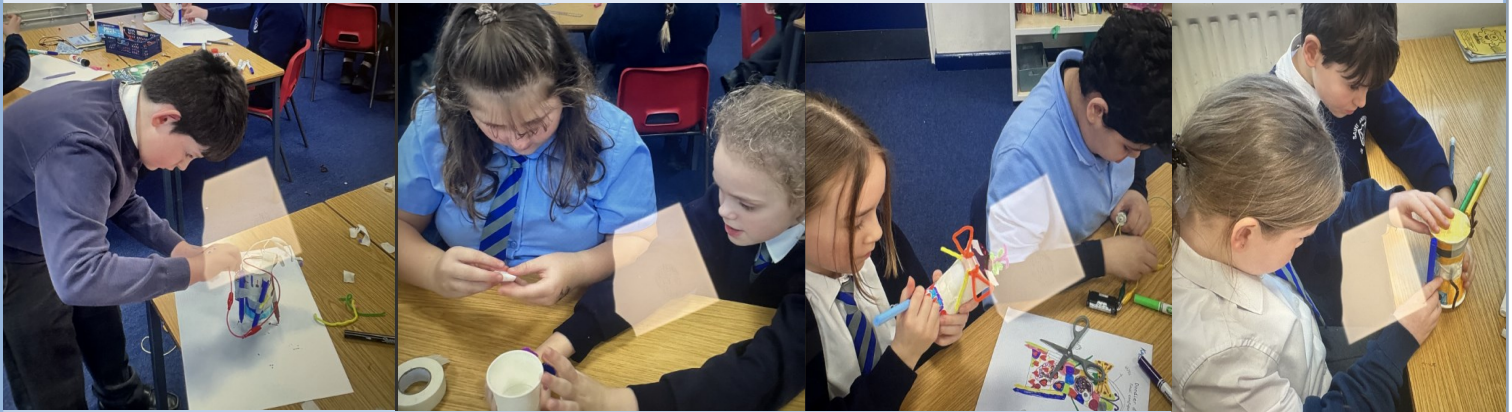
What an exciting week in Year 4! Back in December, the children proudly handed in their finished pieces of writing, full of imagination, effort and determination. After a long and very patient wait... we finally received the news we've all been hoping for - we are officially published authors!

Every child's work will be included in our very own Year 4 class book, a huge achievement and something they should be incredibly proud of. Seeing their hard work recognised in this way has been truly magical and has filled our classroom with excitement and celebration. We can't wait to share the finished book with you all - what a moment to remember!



# Year Five

Year 5 enjoyed a full day of Design and Technology this week, creating their very own robotic doodlers that can draw all by themselves! Working in partnerships, the children designed, constructed and built electrical circuits to help their doodlers move independently. They showed fantastic teamwork, creativity and perseverance throughout the day. We were incredibly impressed with the final results - Year 5 should be very proud of all they achieved!



# Year Six

On Sunday, Year 6 attended their special Commitment Mass, the first step on their journey towards the Sacrament of Confirmation. It was wonderful to see so many Year 6 pupils with their families - thank you to everyone who came, especially those who took an active part in leading the readings, singing and offertory. You were all so reverent and made us very proud. Well done, Year 6!



# 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**

**NON-  
UNIFORM  
DAY £1 PER  
CHILD  
FRIDAY 13TH  
FEBRUARY**



**Valentine's Non-Uniform Day!**

**Celebrate the love!**

**Friday 13th February**

**Wear something pink or red**

**£1 per child**

**Let's make the day full of smiles!**

**The book fair is returning next week.**

**Remember browsing dates/times for parents and children are:**

**Friday 6th and Thursday 12th, 3.30 -4pm**

**BOOK FAIR**

Come and Immerse yourself in the magical world of books at our February Book Fair.

**3RD - 13TH FEBRUARY**

**Books can be purchased only on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February**



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