



# St Andrew's Catholic Primary School

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

0121 743 5675 <https://www.st-andrews.solihull.sch.uk> [office@st-andrews.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-andrews.solihull.sch.uk)

Instagram - Standrewsschoolb92



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

Twitter X - StAndrewsOLAAS

Friday 13th March 2026

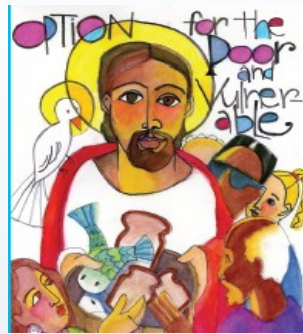
attentive  
faith-filled  
generous  
eloquent  
intentional  
truthful  
hopeful  
curious  
wise  
grateful  
discerning  
compassionate  
active

This half term we are learning to be **Intentional** and **Prophetic**.  
**Intentional** in the way we live and use the resources of the earth,  
guided by conscience; and **prophetic** in the example we set to  
others.

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



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



The future depends on what  
you do today.



(Mahatma Gandhi - Lawyer & Anti-Colonial Nationalist)



In the words of Pope Leo XIV...

Peace is built in the heart and from the heart, by  
eliminating pride and vindictiveness and carefully  
choosing our words.

# IMPORTANT REMINDER

Our school grounds are a shared environment that reflect the values of our whole community. We ask that all pupils, parents and carers help us main-

tain a safe, respectful and welcoming space for everyone. Children are expected to treat the school grounds with care and to use appropriate language at all times while on site. Once children have been collected and are in the care of their parents or carers, families remain responsible for ensuring that behaviour continues to reflect the standards of our school community. This includes ensuring that children do not use inappropriate language and that toilet facilities are used appropriately. For reasons of hygiene, safety and respect for others, all toileting must take place in the designated indoor toilet facilities only. We appreciate the support of all families in helping us maintain a positive and respectful environment for everyone who uses our school grounds.

Thank you,

Mrs Hipkiss



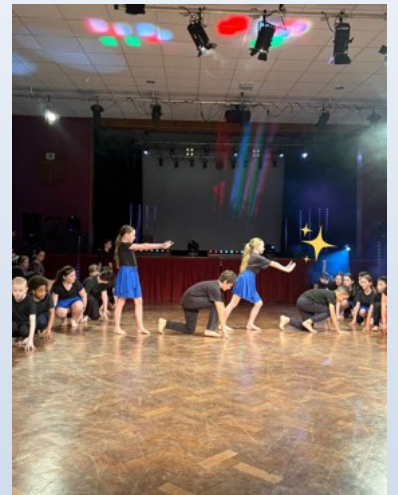
Pledge a £1! Previous years have shown that St Andrew's are absolute pros at "Crazy Hair Day" and so we are bringing it back!

In order to raise money for a very important cause, pupils were invited to come to school with the **craziest**, most creative hairstyles they could think of, in exchange for a £1 donation on Friday 20th March.



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



We are delighted to share how incredibly well our children performed at the recent Dance Festival. They truly smashed it! Our pupils took to the stage with confidence, elegance and great enthusiasm, performing their routine beautifully. The performance was moving and powerful, and it was clear how much dedication and effort the children had put into preparing. In fact, their performance was so beautiful that it brought many in the audience to tears! We are enormously proud of every child who took part and represented our school so wonderfully.

# 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.



# School Uniform- Summer

Our Summer uniform can be worn from the term following the Easter holiday through to the end of the first Autumn term in October

**Please label all your child's clothing**



## **Boys Uniform**

A school logo white polo shirt or a white short sleeve shirt with a tie (Option to wear Blue polo shirt in years 5&6 )

Grey Trousers or Shorts with Sensible black Shoes



## **Girls Uniform**

Blue and white Gingham summer dress/playsuit.

White shirt/polo with grey skirt/trousers (Option to wear blue shirt in years 5&6)

Tie can also be worn  
Appropriate socks and sensible black shoes

Please ensure that your child has a cap and sun cream for the warmer months

## **Uniform- other**

Long Hair must be tied back on all occasions

No trainers except for PE

Studs and Watches are the only Jewellery items that can be worn- expect on PE days

Excessive haircuts are not permitted i.e.. Tram lines and coloured hair

No makeup or nail varnish



**MIDLAND  
SCHOOLWEAR**

Independent Uniform Retailer  
est. since 1997

Our uniform provider is Midland schoolwear who offer both in-store and online services

# 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                                               |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Mon 16th March             | Year 3              | Sacrament of Reconciliation 10.30am                 |
| Tue 17th March             | Year 5              | Celebration of the word 2.50pm                      |
| Wed 18th March             | Year 4              | Trip to Cadbury World                               |
| Wed 18th March             | Year 3              | Sacrament of Reconciliation 10.30am                 |
| Fri 20th March             | All                 | Crazy Hair Day for pledge a £1                      |
| W/B 23rd March             | All                 | Lenten Charities week                               |
| Wed 25th March             | Year 3              | Trip to Lunt Fort                                   |
| Thu 26th March             | All                 | School Nurse drop in- Children's sleep routines 9am |
| 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                                     |
| Fri 19th June              | Year 2              | Trip to Mary Arden's Farm                           |
| Tue 23rd June              | Year 5              | Trip to Harry Potter World                          |
| Tues 23rd June             | Year 6              | Confirmation at 7pm                                 |
| Fri 26th June              | Nursery & Reception | Trip to Thinktank                                   |
| 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, 5 & 3-Swimming   |
| Thursday  | Reception, 1 & 5         |
| Friday    | Year 1, 4 & 6            |



# Attendance and Punctuality



Our KSI attendance winners were Reception.

Our Key Stage 2 attendance winners were Year 5.

Punctuality Winners: Year 1

Well done for the brilliant Attendance and Punctuality this week.

## 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.

| Class     | Attendance                   | Unauthorised Absence. Excl Holidays |
|-----------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Reception | 98.27%                       | 0                                   |
| Year 1    | 94.67%                       | 0                                   |
| Year 2    | 95.17%                       | 0                                   |
| Year 3    | 96.53%                       | 0                                   |
| Year 4    | 98%                          | 0                                   |
| Year 5    | 98.14%                       | 0                                   |
| Year 6    | 97.10%                       | 0                                   |
| Class     | Lates before registers close | Lates after registers close         |
| Reception | 7                            | 0                                   |
| Year 1    | 4                            | 0                                   |
| Year 2    | 5                            | 0                                   |
| Year 3    | 5                            | 0                                   |
| Year 4    | 6                            | 0                                   |
| Year 5    | 8                            | 0                                   |
| Year 6    | 6                            | 0                                   |

## 🕒 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

Nursery have had a super busy week this week,

The children have been busy getting ready for Mother's day, painting pictures of their mummy's and telling me all about why they love them. On Friday we had a special Celebration of the word and invited all nursery parents to come and join us.

Also this week we have been doing lots of investigation for science week. The children took part in a science experiment called Walking Water. They made predictions, looked at the Method and took turns participating. It was very successful and lots of fun.

The children have also been very excited to watch some of their beanstalks growing!

In nursery this week we have also been looking at our story of the week which is 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. The children have made masks and roleplayed the story outside making bridges with materials.



# Reception

We have some extremely brave children in reception this week!

During the animal man's visit, we met a tarantula, a dragon, a millipede, a chinchilla, a ferret, a snake, an owl and a frog!

The children absolutely loved this experience, and we have used these animals to inspire our artwork this week, creating wonderful pictures of the animals we met. We have also discussed where some of the animals might live and looked at the life cycle of a frog!



# Year One

Year 1 had the most amazing time meeting the animal man.

They were all so excited and so brave when holding lots of different exotic animals!

Well done year !!



# Year Two

This week in Year 2 we have been learning about the wonderful author and illustrator Oliver Jeffers for our English! The children really enjoyed discovering more about his life and work.

We explored his early life, learnt about some of the fantastic books he has written and illustrated, and even looked at some of the awards he has received for his work.



# Year Four

What another busy week in Year 4!

From visiting our local shops to investigate where the produce on our shelves comes from, to taking part in an exciting experiment during British Science Week, the children have been full of curiosity and enthusiasm for learning.

To top it all off, the class even managed to put their persuasive skills to the test and successfully convinced Mrs Hipkiss to let us visit to Cadbury World - a sweet reward for a week packed with exploration, discovery and fantastic effort from everyone!

# Year Five

This week, Year 5 had a science morning to celebrate National Science Week. In science, we are currently learning about mixtures and reactions.

The children had a fantastic time carrying out lots of different experiments, exploring how certain substances react with one another when combined. We created lava lamps, experimented with how Mentos and Coke react, and made volcanic explosions by combining bicarbonate of soda and vinegar. They had great fun and were fantastic scientists!



This week, Year 5 have shown us what absolute superstars they are! Throughout the term they have been working incredibly hard on a dance piece, and on Tuesday they finally had their chance to shine on stage. The children headed to Alderbrook School to take part in the Solihull Dance Festival, where they performed alongside around 250 other children.

There were plenty of nerves, excitement and lots of adrenaline - but wow, did they shine on that stage!

They should all be so proud of themselves. They showed everyone exactly what dedication and commitment look like, and truly captured what dance is all about. Well done, Year 5!



# Year Six

Year 6 have enjoyed learning about the Amazon rainforest this week.

We have written explanation texts about the layers of the rainforest, produced ecological artwork based on the destruction of our rainforests and created a display to show off all our beautiful work.

During Science Week, students enjoyed exploring the exciting topics of investigations, light, filters, and rainbows. They asked questions, made predictions, and carried out simple experiments to discover how light behaves. Using prisms, they observed how white light can split into the beautiful colours of a rainbow, and they also used coloured filters to see how light can change and mix in different ways. These investigations encouraged curiosity, teamwork, and careful observation, helping students develop their scientific thinking while having fun learning about the world around them.



# 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**



Another beautiful event for the children of St Andrews.

It's such a joy to see all their excitement, choosing that special gift for their mothers.

Thank you so much to everyone who was able to help.

We hope everyone has a wonderful weekend and the most special Mother's Day



PTA Easter Disco - Friday 27th March

£3 per child | £1.50 siblings

Non-uniform day for all Tuck shop & toy stall available - children can bring pocket money.

Volunteers needed 3-6pm

**DISCO**



**FOOD - DRINK - MUSIC**

**27 MARCH**

**KS1: 3.30 - 4.30 PM**  
**KS2: 4.45 - 5.45 PM**



Book here -

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/standrewscatholicprimaryschool/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=114209>



# 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**