



19th July 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of this academic year, I write to you with a few reminders and updates as we prepare for the summer holidays.

Church Services

Thank you very much to all parents and carers that attended our services at St. Andrew's Church, both today and on Wednesday. It was lovely to be back in the Church building for the first time since the flooding, and we look forward to further services in the new academic year. My thanks to Reverend Al and the children and staff in Years 2 and 6 for taking the lead on the respective services.

PTFA Summer Fayre

Thank you to everyone that attended the Summer Fayre last Friday. The total raised was £542.80. We are very grateful to our PTFA for their hard work in planning and organising last Friday's fayre, as well as all other events that have taken place this year – it is very much appreciated!

School Disco

It was lovely to hold our end of term discos on Wednesday evening. The children thoroughly enjoyed both events, particularly the younger children, as we put on our first EYFS/Key Stage 1 version. We managed to raise £477.98 from both events. My thanks to all the staff that stayed to help at both discos.

Dates for Autumn Term 1

Although it seems a long way off, I would like to give you advance notice of some key dates for the start of the new academic year:

Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September – INSET Days (school closed to children)

Wednesday 4th September – First day of term for all year groups

Wednesday 11th September – Open Classrooms (please see below)

Thursday 3rd October – Harvest Festival in Church (Key Stage 2 only – 9:30am)

Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th October – Parents' Evening

Open Classrooms

We will be having another Open Classrooms evening on Wednesday 11th September, between 3:40pm and 4:45pm. This will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's new class teacher, ask any questions you may have about routines and to have a look around the classroom. You are welcome to bring your children with you or attend without them. This session will replace the previous Parent Information/Meet and Greet Evenings, allowing parents and carers with more than one child at the school to visit all classrooms on the same evening. The information slides that were previously presented will be running on a loop in the classrooms and will then be uploaded to the website.



School Games Platinum Award

We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the School Games Platinum Award for 2023/24 – 2024/25. This is testament to the work of the staff in school, led by Mrs Pledger, in ensuring that we are offering a wide variety of sporting opportunities for our children. Please see the statement at the end of this letter for more details. My thanks to the staff for all that they do in promoting sport and exercise amongst our children.

Energy from Waste Award

Continuing on the theme of awards, I am delighted to announce that Year 4 were one of two winners of the Waste Free Lunch Challenge 2024, following on from their visit to the Energy from Waste Centre earlier this year. This is the third time in a row that St. Andrew's children have achieved this award. The class generated only 400g of general waste from their lunch boxes, which was a fantastic effort. Congratulations to Mr Harrison and all of the staff and children in Year 4.

Smartwatches and Mobile Phones

We are in the process of updating our Mobile Phone Policy, which will be published in September. As part of this, the governors have agreed that Smartwatches should not be worn by children in school. This is due to them having the ability to link to the internet and some having cameras, which can cause privacy issues and/or concerns around cyberbullying. A reminder that mobile phones can only be brought into school by children in Years 5 and 6, which must be switched off and stored in the classroom for the duration of the school day. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Timings for 2024/25 Academic Year

A reminder that our school day timings will be changing from September (please see below).

8:45am – Gates open for all children

8:55am – Registration closes

3:15pm – End of school day for children in Reception

3:25pm – End of school day for children in Year 1 – 6

It is important that all children are in school by 8:55am for registration. Children arriving after this time will be marked as late. Department for Education legislation around attendance is changing from 19th August – please see the letter sent out yesterday for more details.

And finally...

I would like to wish all members of our school community a peaceful and enjoyable summer break and to thank you for your continuing support of the school. To our Year 6 children, I send my very best wishes as you move onto your new schools in September, which I am sure will bring you further success in the future.

I look forward to welcoming everyone else back to school on Wednesday 4th September.

Yours sincerely

Mr M W Baker
Headteacher



Leasingham St Andrews

Platinum Level c



We are delighted to announce that we, Leasingham St Andrews, have achieved the School Games Platinum Award for the 2023/24 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

Some of our sporting achievements this year include:

- Swimming
- Football
- Netball
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Tennis
- Athletics

With a total of young people competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions possible.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

A special thanks to:

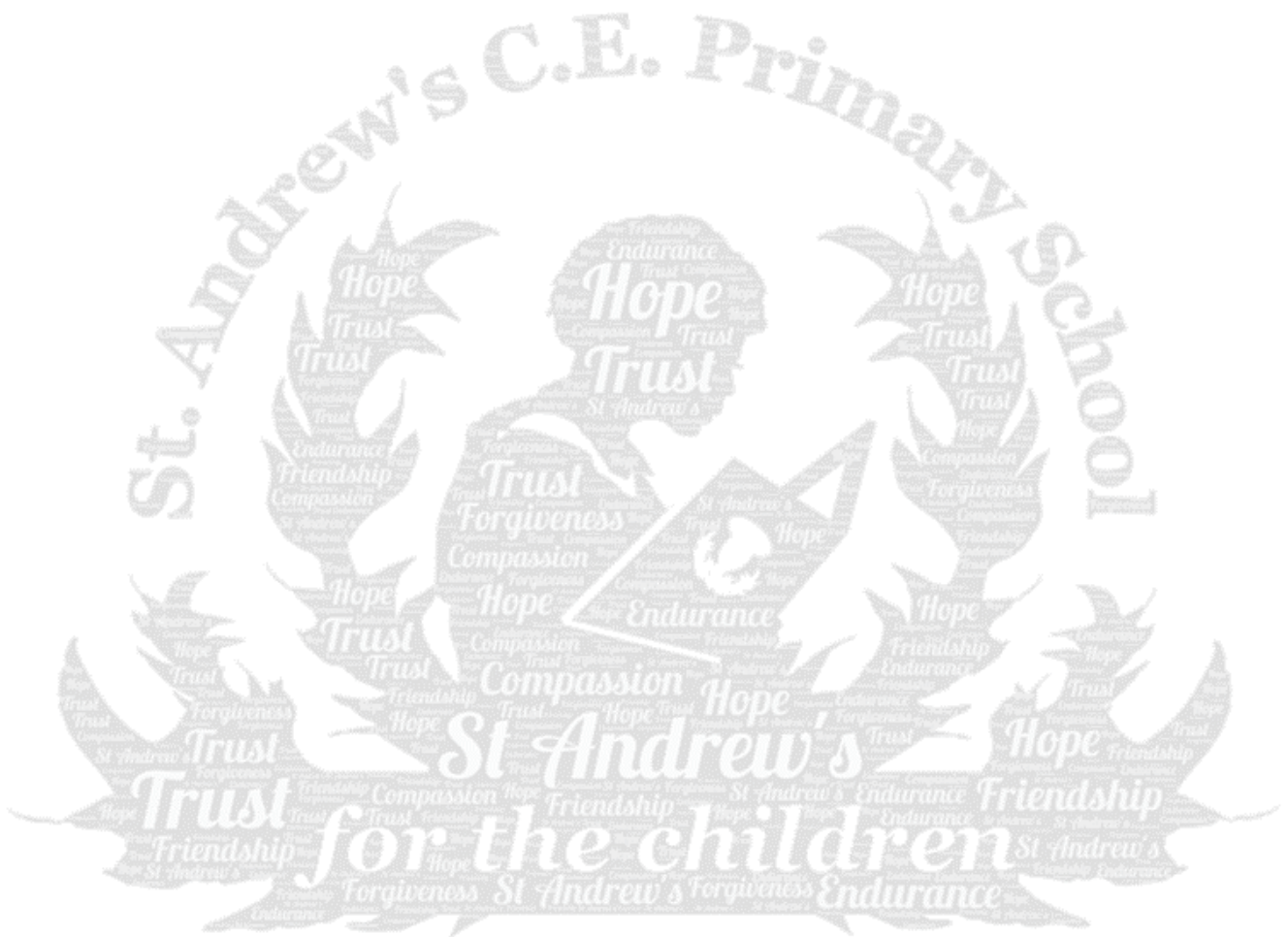
- Mrs Lear and Mrs Lee who transport and support the children at events.
- The Outreach team for planning and delivering the events.
- Matthew Strange, our brilliant SGO.
- All the staff at Leasingham St Andrews for making physical education a key focus.
- The incredible children, who show all the School Games Values in everything they do.

We look forward to applying once again in 2025!



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