



Hatfield Peverel St. Andrew's Junior School

NEWSLETTER

8th December 2023



Dear Parents and carers,

St Andrew's Christmas traditions are in full swing! Christmas craft is being made for you to buy; more details coming next week! It will be lovely to have the school's 'Christmas choir' singing at the Village hall on Sunday.

Any children who are taking part, please meet me inside the village hall at 12:50 ready to sing at 1:00.

The children can wear whatever they want, and wear a Christmas hat or tinsel if they wish!



Wishing you all a lovely weekend.
From Mrs Black and the St Andrew's team.



PANTOMIME (CINDERELLA) - Wednesday 13th December

This year we have been so touched by the generosity of both the Village Hall committee and our own wonderful (and incredibly hard working) JSA. The use of the Village Hall has been donated to us by them and the cost of the pantomime production has been paid for by the JSA so there is no cost to families for the pantomime this year. The children will be safely walked to the Village Hall by school staff.

No sweets are required - so please do not send your child with sweets like last year.

School lunches - if you haven't pre-ordered school provided packed lunches or the Christmas buffet lunch on Thursday 14th, can you please ensure your child/ren have a packed lunch from home with them. The pre-ordering window has now closed for all school provided lunches until the new year.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS



You will be aware that this week we have sent communications via both Parentmail and ParentPay. This appears to have gone well with the vast majority of the school now signed up to ParentPay and (hopefully) receiving school comms. We will therefore begin to 'faze out' Parentmail with immediate effect. Needless to say if you have any queries regarding ParentPay then please do contact the school office.



Play Leaders

We are excited to announce that we will shortly be recruiting some children to be play leaders for lunchtimes. This is another new role at St. Andrew's and a great opportunity for children of all year groups to be able to help others during break times.

There will be two children from each class chosen to become a play leader. We hope that this will mean that we will be able to run a rota so that the children will be helping every other day. We mentioned the role in Collective Worship a few weeks ago and there seemed to be a lot of interest, so a job application, using a google form, has been created for the children to apply so that we can choose as fairly as possible.

The duties will include:

- Attending meetings about play times and talking about what activities could happen at break.
- Asking children in class for their views about play time.
- Coming up with suggestions for play activities.
- Organising play activities at lunchtime breaks.
- Organising play equipment and putting this away at the end of breaks.

The application for this important role in school is below in a Google form. The deadline for application will be **15th December 2023**.

Please feel free to help your child complete the form. There is also a section for a reference from someone they know to say why they think they would make a good play leader.

Before they apply please make sure that they are happy to commit to the role of play leader and the duties that it involves including the above duties, spending lunchtimes helping out and organising games and initially attending meetings every 2 weeks.

Google Form Application for a Play Leader role.

<https://forms.gle/wmCs5VMhHwfgMgUZ6>

Autumn Term 2023 - dates for your diary:-

13th December: Whole School Panto (Cinderella)

14th December: Christmas Dinner (pre-bookings only)

14th December: JSA Christmas Disco (Y3-4 3.10-4.10pm & Y5-6 4.30-5.30pm)

18th December: JSA Christmas Raffle Draw/Christmas Crafts

20th December: Church Christmas Carol Service 11:15am (all welcome)

20th December: last day of term 1pm finish

Thursday 4th January 2024: children return to school

Year Group	Trip or Event	Deadline for response
All Years	• Wednesday 20 th December - last day of term - 1pm finish	
Year 3		
Year 4		
Year 5		
Year 6	Link to Google form for mobile phones https://forms.gle/MU3e6bowiZVHrxi5A	

Reception admissions for academic year starting in September 2024

As you may be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **Monday 6 November 2023**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2024.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2024**.

From 6 November 2023, applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

All of the application information is available on the website above.

Even if a parent already has a sibling at the school, they need to apply if they have a child due to start Reception next September

Parents with Year 2 Children

Year 2- 3 admissions for September 2024

As you are aware, parents of current Year 2 children at an infant school need to make a formal application to the Council for a Year 3 place and can do so via the website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

The junior admission round opened on **6 November 2023**, for parents of children in Year 2 at an infant school to apply for a junior school (Year 3) place for September 2024.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2024**.

From 6 November 2023, applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.



Wishing a very **Happy Birthday** to those who celebrate their birthdays between:
4th to 10th December

George F, Vincent, Leo, Reggie B-T,

For more artwork please follow:

<https://twitter.com/charliemackesy?lang=en>



MOST PLAYED

1 st	Elliott G	37,920
2 nd	Joshua H	35,251
3 rd	Alexis W	7,140



*If you need to drop off or collect your child outside of the usual school hours, please come to the green rec gate and call the school office. **There is no access for children or visitors through the red car park gate.***



These are the children who have been spotted shining in school this week. We could have chosen so many children- the decisions were hard to make!

Well done for demonstrating our CARE values.

Apple - Amelia-Rae
Birch -Thomas
Cherry - Esme
Fir - Timothy
Maple -Tom
Oak - Frankie
Rowan - Elijah
Sycamore - Lottie



Compassion Achievement Respect Enjoyment
Every child is loved and known. Every child shines.



**WELL DONE TO
VINEHURST
HOUSE!**

Points for this week!	
Berwicks	303
Greystones	372
Priory	420
Vinehurst	423



This year St Andrew's School Council have pledged to do things differently. We have joined with Eco Essex, a grass roots organisation founded by a group of mums who wanted to do more for the environment, and are encouraging the whole school community - staff included - to cut the number of Christmas cards sent and therefore save trees.




Votes now
in!



School Council Pledge to save trees!



Did you know that for every 3,000 Christmas cards made,  tree is cut down?



Classes have voted on 3 different alternative ways to still send Christmas cards but without the negative impact on our trees.

The vote was *overwhelming* and across the school nearly 80% of pupils voted for a Secret Santa Card.



Each class will find a way to do a blind draw so that everyone in the class - children and adults - get a name to prepare a card for.

You can be as imaginative as you like - draw one, collage one, write a kind message in a card from home, print one.

Bring it into school by Monday 18th December and post it in the class postbox.

St Andrew's Junior School can save a tree - or maybe 2!





In Collective Worship this week, children were introduced to Dame Rachel de Souza's role as Children's Commissioner and her **Big Ambition** project.

Find out more from Dame Rachel's video [here](#) on YouTube.



Even though you won't directly have a vote, you can make your voice count!

Dame Rachel's role means that she wants to make sure children's views are heard by the people in government who make decisions. Since there will be a general election next year, children are being encouraged to complete Dame Rachel's **Big Ambition** survey so that, as candidates create their manifestos and the new government is formed, children's opinions will count.



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



£1.00 PER TICKET (£5.00 PER RAFFLE BOOK)

TICKETS & PAYMENT TO BE HANDED INTO THE SCHOOL BY **FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER**. DRAWN ON **MONDAY 18TH DECEMBER**
PLEASE DO RETURN UNWANTED RAFFLE BOOKS TO THE SCHOOL SO THEY CAN BE SOLD ELSEWHERE – THANK YOU!

1ST PRIZE – £75 CASH PRIZE (DONATED BY PAUL MASON)

2ND PRIZE – LUXURY CHRISTMAS HAMPER (DONATED BY PAUL MASON)

3RD PRIZE – £50 CASH PRIZE (DONATED BY FULL CIRCLE COMPLIANCE)

4TH PRIZE – £40 LION INN VOUCHER

PLUS, MORE GREAT PRIZES INCLUDING:

FAMILY TICKET TO WHITE ELM FARM * PERRYWOODS VOUCHER

£30 CABELLO VOUCHER * BEACH HUT HIRE

OLIVER 'S NURSERIES GIFT VOUCHER * POPULAR NURSERY VOUCHER



The **Essex Safeguarding Children's Board** has asked us to share the information about the following event, this Sunday, which is an online safety session for parents.

The 2 Johns Online Safety session – Sunday 10 December 7pm

The 2 Johns are running a session on Sunday evening (10 December) at 7pm to launch the ESCB online safety week. The virtual session and Q&A will be hosted on Zoom and also [The 2 Johns Facebook page](#). This will be followed by a week of online safety messages and advice on the ESCB social media accounts. [Find out more about the campaign](#).

<https://www.escb.co.uk/about/campaigns/online-safety/>



The Children's Commissioner for England has recently launched 'The Big Ambition' to hear directly from children, young people and parents across the country.

We want to hear from all children, in every part of the country and in every setting.

This is your chance to tell key policymakers what is important to you ahead of the general election. Take part now and ensure your needs are reflected in the decisions that will affect you in years to come.

Scan the QR code to take part



 **CHILDREN'S
COMMISSIONER**





“Every child deserves the magic of Christmas!”

As families decorate their tree and prepare for Father Christmas to visit, it's hard to believe there are children of all ages across Essex who have never experienced Christmas before. Foster carers Sheila and her husband are bringing the magic of Christmas to vulnerable children in care. [Watch her video](#) to hear her heart-warming story of how they are restoring the childhood magic of Christmas time.

We carefully match children to your family and support you every step of the way. Could you consider fostering and transform a child's life?

Visit www.essex.gov.uk/foster or call 0800 801 530 to find out more.

<https://www.essexadoptionandfostering.co.uk/fostering>