



NEWSLETTER

20th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to those of you who were able to join us for the Christmas Service today. As we come to the end of 2024, I reflect on what has been another unprecedented time for the St Andrew's family.

I am so grateful for the support that you have all shown me and my staff as we have navigated life in yet more changing and difficult times. I am grateful to Clare Kershaw, Joe Chell and Councillor Louis at Essex County Council for ensuring that the needs of the school are being met as quickly and as well as possible. They have been key in keeping us prioritised within the Department for Education too.

As staff, we have never worked in such challenging circumstances for so long- and I want to thank them with all my heart for their passion, commitment and good humour in which they work.

2025 will bring more change, but then a period of calm and time to settle- a gift for us all! Wishing you a very merry Christmas- do look out for those WOW moments amongst the busy times!



Have a lovely weekend from
Mrs Black and the St Andrew's team



A sneaky message from
staff 😊

50
Mrs Black

We hope you all share with us the happiest birthday wishes to MRS BLACK as she celebrates a BIG birthday during the festive break.

'Happy Birthday Mrs Black from all of St. Andrew's'

GOODBYE



Good bye and Good luck in the future to Miss Tracey, Miss Defoe and Miss Black. who are all leaving for pastures new in January. They have been part of our RAAC staffing and have worked at St Andrew's during the hardest times! We wish them a bright future.



School Meal Pre-ordering

- Meals for the first 2 weeks of Spring Term made by Thursday 12th December
- By Midnight on Thursday 9th January for the week beginning 20th January 2025

Spring Term 2025 - Diary Dates

Monday 6th January 2025: children return to school **8:30 am**
 Week beginning 13th January: music lessons re-commence
 Wednesday 15th January 2025: closing date for Year 2 to 3 applications
 Friday 31st January: Grandparents Morning (details to follow)
 Wednesday 12th February: Year 5 Road Safety Visit
 Thursday 27th February: Year 4 Roman Day (details to follow)
 Friday 7th March: World Book Day (details to follow)
 Wednesday 12th March: Year 6 to Harry Potter -Warner Bros Studios (details to follow)
 Thursday 13th March: Year 5 Viking Day (details to follow)
 Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th March: Parent Consultation Evenings
 Monday 31st March: Year 5 Easter Performance 2pm (details to follow)
 Friday 4th April: Easter Church Service 11am (details to follow)

Our 'no coat, no play' policy is back. Even if your child does not want to wear a coat to school- please bring it regardless! They will wear it at break and lunch. We do have a few 'spare' coats that children can wear if they forget their own!.

'Attendance Matters'

Attendance for each year group this week.

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
96%=	96%=	92% =	94% =

Key

= remains the same as last week/ - worse than last week/ + better than last week

Communication regarding attendance concerns and requests for leave of absence will now be shared electronically via email wherever possible. This is in line with ECC directives.

Year Group	Trip or Event	Deadline for response
All Years	After School Clubs (please see next page)	
Year 3		
Year 4	Google form for interest in Astronomy Club https://forms.gle/P4Nx1arh8oUZVW929	Monday 6 th January 2025
Year 5	Google form for interest in Astronomy Club https://forms.gle/P4Nx1arh8oUZVW929	Monday 6 th January 2025
Year 6	Google form for interest in Astronomy Club https://forms.gle/P4Nx1arh8oUZVW929 June 2025 Residential Trip Letter to Parents	Monday 6 th January 2025 Friday 25 th October

NAMING ALL ITEMS IN SCHOOL

Lost property is again over-flowing with uniform, lunchboxes, water bottles, gloves, etc etc. A reminder to please name *everything* that comes into school. Particularly uniform. We can return anything to rightful owners but *only* if it is named!

A special thank you to our Book Crew who have volunteered their time reading with the children over this term:

- Mrs Collins
- Mrs Hunt
- Mr Dinnen
- Mrs Wassenaar



Please see the flyer later in this Newsletter if you are able to spare any time to read with our children.

PE days remain the same for Spring Term 2025

PE DAYS SPRING TERM 2025 (children to wear PE kit on PE days)

Red PE top, black shorts/joggers, red sweatshirt or jumper (no black tops please) and trainers

Year 3

Monday
Wednesday

Year 4

Wednesday
Thursday

Year 5

Monday
Tuesday

Year 6

Tuesday
Friday

Important information for families with children in Year 2

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 **4 November 2024**, for parents of children in Year 2 at an infant school to apply for a junior school (Year 3) place for September 2025.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2025**.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions

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



Spotlight on: Christmas at St Andrew's





RE

Through studying a range of religious and non-religious world views, children demonstrate their knowledge and understanding in RE in oral or written forms. Written work is no more valid than a discussion, debate, drama or role-play, and is more suitable for some children. A recent visitor to our school (Raj, from our local Hindu temple), commented that the pupils showed 'remarkable curiosity and depth of understanding. It was clear that they are being nurtured in an environment that fosters not only academic excellence but also a keen interest in cultural and moral values.' If any parent is interested in coming into school to talk about their religion or non-religious world view, you would be most welcome. Please do get in touch with Mrs Maginn via the school office.



"We can learn from each other if there are others with different beliefs."

Year Five pupil



CORNER

Mrs Kate Maginn



**After School Astronomy Club – Mondays - Spring Term 2025
(Years 4/5/6 only)**

Year 4 Parents/Carers

Please complete the Google form in the link below if your child is interested in attending an after-school Astronomy Club on Mondays 3-4pm in January 2025 for 5 weeks at a cost of £15.

Year 5/6 Parents/Carers

This is for children who were previously at Dodgeball Club and unable to attend Astronomy Club. Please do not complete the form if your child has already attended Astronomy Club during the Autumn term.

<https://forms.gle/zAnWnJ5yjcS6k4Da7>

Further information will follow in the New Year once we have an idea of numbers and whether the club is viable.

Spring Term 2025 After School Clubs – please sign up using the links below:-

Monday - Gymnastics Y3-6

<https://sportscoachingspecialists.classforkids.io/info/259>

Tuesday - Archery Y3-6

<https://sportscoachingspecialists.classforkids.io/info/260>

Wednesday - Dodgeball Training Y3-6

<https://sportscoachingspecialists.classforkids.io/info/261>

All after school clubs will commence in the week beginning 13th January 2025.



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 - Jenson
Birch - Evie
Cherry - Grace
Fir - George
Maple - Jesse
Oak - Timothy
Rowan - Chase
Sycamore - Henry P



Compassion Achievement Respect
Enjoyment

Every child is loved and known.

Every child shines.



Congratulations to the children below who have made it onto the TTRS leader board for this week!



Year 3 MOST PLAYED

1 st	Archie B	4,188
2 nd	Everly L	2,290
3 rd	Rosie-Mae A	1,487



Year 4 MOST PLAYED

1 st	James S	16,853
2 nd	Alice A	16,112
3 rd	Theodore J	13,220



Year 5 MOST PLAYED

1 st	Isla W	50,648
2 nd	Lola-Rose H	11,782
3 rd	Neil L	8,980



Year 6 MOST PLAYED

1 st	Henry M	9,746
2 nd	Chase F	8,546
3 rd	Lucas B	7,800



Wishing a very **Happy Birthday** to those who celebrate their birthdays between:
16th December 2024 to 5th January 2025

Isabelle A (Oak), Myles W (Maple), Max D (Oak), Elliott G (Oak),
Isla T (Rowan), Thomas O (Rowan), James S (Fir), Everly L (Birch),
Leo D (Birch), Ralph A (Apple), Kobi T (Birch), Arthur V (Birch), Lola-Rose H (Maple),
Mrs Black (celebrating a BIG birthday)



Winner of House
Points for this
week.

Berwicks	565
Greystones	447
Priory	428
Vinehurst	561

Well done to
VINEHURST
for earning
the most
house points
this TERM!
8335 points



If you want to see more from Charlie Mackesy please follow
<https://www.charliemackesy.com/>

ST. A BOOK CREW



It is proven that children who read daily are more likely to have accelerated **progress**.

Children **learn** 4,000 to 12,000 words per year through reading.

Children who read books often at age 10 **gain higher results** at age 16 than those who read less regularly.

Reading for 6 minutes a day **reduces stress** by 68%

Reading **enjoyment** is reported as more important for children's **educational success** than their family's socio-economic status.



All volunteers will have a DBS check and training provided.

 VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED

CAN YOU SPARE AN HOUR OR MORE A WEEK?

Here at St. Andrew's we believe that **reading is the key to everything!** Sharing a book with an adult is invaluable and we want to provide EVERY child with the opportunity to develop a love for reading.

So... we are building our **St. A Book Crew** – a fabulous group of helpers who come in every week to support reading across all classes. They hear children read and play a big part in developing the children's skills and enjoyment of the wonderful world of books!

If you would like to volunteer, please email Mrs Smith via the school office on admin@hatfieldpeverel-jun.essex.sch.uk



A special thank you to our wonderful and very hard-working JSA who have done so much for the children over the past few weeks. Now it is time to rest and relax over the holidays (?!).

Events have been very well supported by our fabulous parents - and their families - so a big thank you to you all.

Elfridges Gift Shop - £740

Christmas Disco - £964

Tea Towels - £163

Lucky Ticket - £301

Christmas Raffle - £1121

An amazing grand festive total of **£3289!**

The children loved their special visit on Thursday – we are grateful to Santa for sparing his precious time and sharing gifts.

The JSA shared this message earlier in the week, we are all very grateful.

We hope the children enjoyed picking their gifts from our first ever Elfridges gift shop. Huge thanks to the helpers, we really appreciate your time!





Leah's family tell us that after the disco on Friday she joined her Mum at the Infants as the INSA held their film night.

Leah was super helpful during the film, helping the younger children when they wanted to find their bags and coats, checking through all the bags with a torch to locate the right ones!

At the end, they collected up all the empty bottles of drink and so that they could be recycled, Leah peeled off all the labels whilst Mum removed the lids.

Fabulous work Leah helping out and making sure that 80 empty bottles and all the cardboard made it to our recycling that otherwise would have gone into the regular rubbish. The picture is of all the recycling Leah did....!

This is such a huge help to the wonderful INSA Leah and well done for thinking about the planet too! Even one bottle makes a difference so a bag full is fantastic!



AUTUMN/WINTER TERM 2024/25 - SCHOOL MEAL MENUS (weeks 1 & 2)

Please ensure you have PRE-ORDERED via ParentPay

- No further pre-orders for the weeks beginning 6th January and 13th January 2025.**
- Pre-orders for the week beginning 20th January 2025 need pre-ordering by 9th January 2025**

Meals are £2.55 daily

Thank you for helping to support our school by choosing a school meal for your child/ren.

Week ONE Menu

Weeks beginning 6th January & 27th January

WINTER 2024/25 - LUNCH MENU

Hatfield Peverel St. Andrew's Junior School

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pasta Neapolitan with Cheese (v)	Homemade Chicken Pie or Roasted Vegetable Crumble (ve)	Chili Con Carne or Vegetable/Lentil Chili Con Carne (ve)	Roast Gammon or Roasted Herby Quorn Fillet (ve)	Chicken Nuggets or Crispy Vegetable Dippers (ve)
Garlic Bread (v) Broccoli (ve)	Mash Potatoes (v) Seasonal Vegetables (ve) Gravy (ve)	White & Wholemeal Rice (ve) Sweetcorn (ve)	Roasted New Potatoes (v) Yorkshire Pudding (v) Mixed Vegetables (v) Gravy (ve)	Chips (ve) Baked Beans (ve) Peas (ve)
Smoothie (ve)	Fruit (ve) or Yoghurt (v)	Oat Cookie (ve)	Syrup Sponge (v)	Fruit (ve) or Yoghurt (v)

Thank you for supporting us by having a school meal. Please be assured for your peace of mind - all allergens are catered for.

Week TWO Menu

Weeks beginning 13th January & 3rd February

WINTER 2024/25 - LUNCH MENU

Hatfield Peverel St. Andrew's Junior School

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Sausage Roll or Sausage Twist (ve)	Butter Chicken Curry or Sweet Potato & Lentil Curry (ve)	Mince Beef Bolognese or Vegetable/Lentil Bolognese (ve)	Roast Gammon or Roasted Quorn Fillet (ve)	Fish Fillet or Fishless Finger (ve)
Wedges (ve) Baked Beans (ve) Peas (ve)	Rice (ve) Cauliflower/Broccoli (ve)	Spaghetti Broccoli (ve)	Roast Potatoes (ve) Yorkshire Pudding (v) Seasonal Vegetables (ve) Gravy (ve)	Chips (ve) Peas (ve) Sweetcorn (ve)
Fruit (ve) or Yoghurt (v)	Marble Cake (v)	Ginger Biscuit (ve)	Fruit (ve) or Yoghurt (v)	Ice Cream (v)

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Jacket Potato (ve) with Cheese (v) Beans (ve) Tuna Mayo	Crispy Dippers (ve) with Sweet & Sour or BBQ Sauce or Vegetable Curry (ve)	Sausage Toad in the Hole or Veggie Sausage Toad in the Hole (v)	Roast Chicken or Roasted Vegetable Crumble (v)	Omega 3 Fish Fingers or Fluffy Cheese Omelette (v)
Pepper/Sweetcorn Salad (ve)	Rice (ve) Broccoli (ve)	Mash (ve) Peas (ve) Gravy (ve)	Roasted New Potatoes (ve) Seasonal Vegetables (ve) Yorkshire Pudding (v) Gravy (ve)	Chips (ve) Baked Beans (ve) Sweetcorn (ve)
Fruit (ve) or Yoghurt (v)	Sponge with Toffee Sauce (v)	Biscuit (ve)	Fruit (ve) or Yoghurt (v)	Fruit (ve) or Yoghurt (v)

Thank you for supporting us by having a school meal. Please be assured for your peace of mind - all allergens are catered for.

Meals can be pre-ordered to February HALF TERM and will only be charged to ParentPay once the meal has been taken.

NHS Pharmacy First Service

Did you know that the NHS Pharmacy First Service enables children and adults to get convenient access to healthcare advice and treatment where appropriate, for seven common conditions without the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment? Accessing the service may mean that we can help children feel better and get back to school as quickly as possible, as well as supporting parents/carers to also get better if they are unwell with one of the conditions covered under the service.

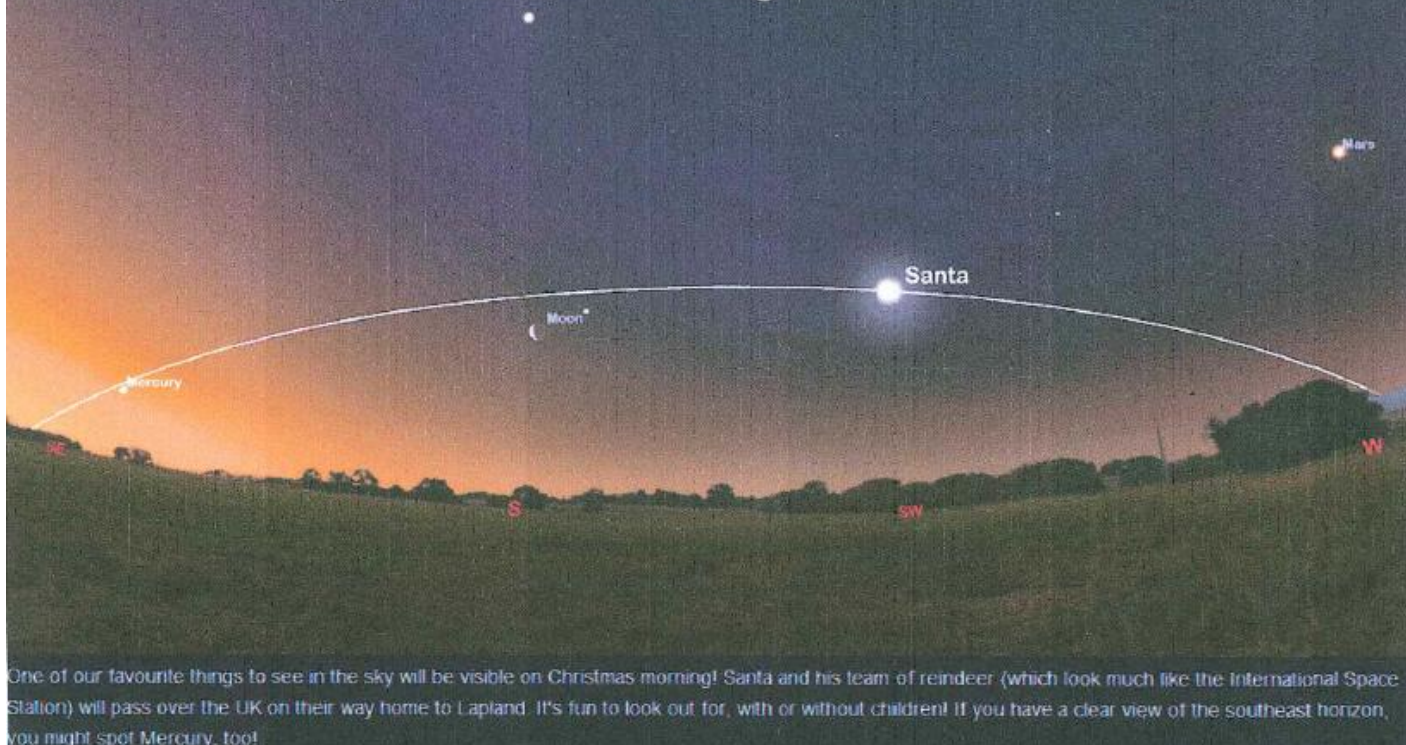
There is no need to make an appointment; parents or carers can pop into their local Boots pharmacy with their child and ask for help under the service.

Support for the following conditions can be accessed under the service, free of charge (unless NHS prescription charges apply):

Common condition	Patient eligibility
Earache	1 to 17 years
Impetigo	1 year and over
Infected insect bites and stings	1 year and over
Sore throats	5 years and over
Sinusitis	12 years and over
Uncomplicated urinary tract	Women 16 to 64 years
Shingles	18 years and over

See Santa fly over on Christmas morning

Christmas Morning @ 07:40 GMT - looking South




 Essex
ACTivate



BOOK ONTO OUR FREE WINTER HOLIDAY CLUBS!

Eligible children and young people are invited to book onto our FREE, fun-filled activity clubs who are run by a network of locally, trusted organisations and brought to you by Active Essex, Essex County Council and Thurrock Council, on behalf of the Department for Education!



IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE?

Clubs offer spaces to primary and secondary school aged children (4-16 years) who are eligible for benefit based free school meals. Limited spaces are available for young people who are also from 'low-income' working families, as well as children who may be vulnerable to inactivity or social isolation.

WHERE WILL THE CLUBS BE RUN?

Clubs will be running across Essex in Braintree, Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Colchester, Epping, Harlow, Maldon, Rochford, Tendring, Thurrock and Uttlesford!

WHAT DO THE CLUBS PROVIDE?

Clubs provide a range of different physical, enrichment and food activities to support children's physical and mental wellbeing, as well as a delicious, nutritious meal! We also offer specialist youth, SEND and mental wellbeing clubs.

HOW DO I BOOK ONTO A CLUB?

If you have received a Holiday Activities voucher code, click the link on the voucher to book your child/ren onto a club. If you're still awaiting a voucher code, please contact your school. If you aren't eligible for a Holiday Activities voucher as your child/ren do not receive benefits based free school meals, please contact a local club directly to book on by heading to our website below.

www.activeessex.org/children-young-people/essex-activate

