

ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

With God's love, we live, learn and grow together

RECENT LETTERS AND NOTICES

School Meal Vouchers

Families in receipt of free school meals will receive vouchers through the half term. Please check your emails for more information.

Changes to PE days for Y3 and Y4

From next term, Year 3 PE day will be on Wednesdays and Year 4 PE day will be on Tuesdays.

Government announcements

We are waiting, like everyone else, for the Government to make an announcement on 22nd February, about whether schools will open on 8th March. So, until then, we will continue with the remote learning on Monday 22nd Feb, for those children at home.

Fantastic Friday



Today has been a fantastic Friday and throughout the year groups, children have been busy making things, playing music, listening to music and taking time to slow down, with some mindfulness activities. In Year 5, they have been making Valentine's Day cards and in Year 1, they decorated lolly sticks for a whole school project.



Remote learning this term

Over the course of 6 weeks, we have continued to adapt and improve the remote learning provision for our children learning at home through Teams and Tapestry. This, of course, has been in addition to teachers teaching over 100 critical worker and vulnerable children, who are attending school each day. The teachers have been planning and delivering lessons at school and remotely, on alternating weeks. In addition, we have increased the number of recorded lessons, so that children at home can work at their own pace and at a time of the day which best suits the family.

Many of the older children have become very proficient at using Teams for supporting their own learning, using the private messaging facility to contact teachers and reply to advice and feedback.

It has enabled these children to manage their learning themselves, ask for support and advice and to give teachers a good idea of how they are getting on with the work set.

We are also so grateful to our parents, for their commitment to supporting the school with the home learning, this term. It has not been easy and many of our staff, as parents too, know the challenges of trying to keep everyone motivated and engaged. Do encourage your child to private message the teacher, so that they can directly support with any issues.

Class Meets

After half term, all children will have the opportunity to meet regularly online with their class teacher and other children through Teams, or for Reception and Nursery, through Zoom calls. For children at home, this will mean they can catch up with the teacher up to three times a week. Please read the letter from Miss Mann, which was sent out this week, to find your child's times for these weekly meets.

Staff Changes

Mrs Sarah Hatchett

It is with great sadness that at the end of this term, we will say a fond farewell to Mrs Sarah Hatchett, our super-efficient and much loved Office and Welfare Assistant. Sarah joined the school 16 years ago! In that time, many parents will have spoken to Mrs Hatchett regarding bumps and bruises, the odd broken bone, as well as those with children who had allergies and care plans. Sarah also supported many children as a Learning Support Assistant, in previous years, so her many talents and skills will be greatly missed.

We will miss her no nonsense approach to school life, but more importantly, her great sense of humour and kind heart. On behalf of all of us at St. Andrew's, we will greatly miss Sarah, but wish her a safe and happy retirement with her family and dog, Alfie.

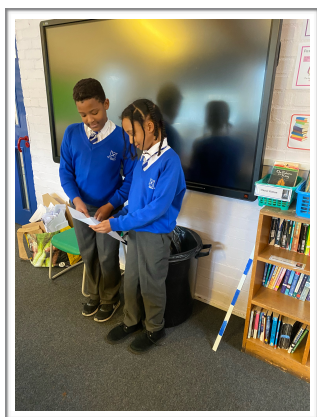


Mrs Maria Economides

At the end of February, we are also losing one of our most experienced Teaching Assistants, Mrs Economides. Working mainly in the upper school, Mrs Economides has been with us for almost 8 years, working alongside the teacher to support children of all abilities. Maria also helped to lead the Debating Club, which has seen many years of success in Enfield Competitions. Maria will be taking a job in Legal Services, an area in which she is already qualified. We wish Maria all the very best in her new job.

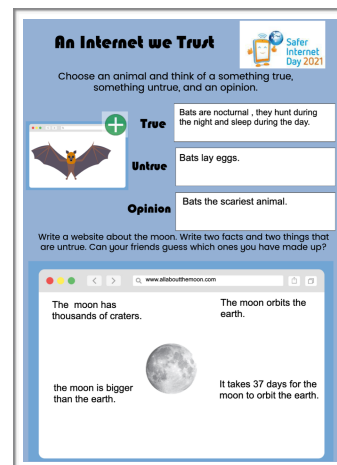
If you would like to write a farewell message to Mrs Hatchett or Mrs Economides, please email the office at: admin@st-andrews-enfield.enfield.sch.uk and we will make sure they receive your good wishes.

What has been happening at school and at home



We have had a few days of snow and it has delighted the children in school so much! Lots of snowman making, running and even a few snow angels were seen!

Elsewhere, we have been busy at school and home this week for Internet Safety Day. Thank you to Miss Taylor (3B) for giving us plenty of ideas on how to ensure we are all safe online. In Year 3, they used a Purple Mash computing program to generate true and false statements, to show how easy it is to fall for misinformation online. Continuing their unit on poetry, Y6 performed their own poems about online safety. In Reception, the children have been thinking about God's Love for us all and have written prayers to hang on their special tree.



Young Minds - supporting parents and young people

Times are tough for many people right now. Parents find themselves pulled in many different directions and children may be struggling being in the house for so much longer than usual. A mixture of concern about Covid, working from home and having children learning at home, along with a possible financial impact makes for a stressful household. Young Minds have created a useful **'Supporting Parents Helpfinder'**. By answering six questions, parents can find out how to support their child's mental health during the pandemic (and beyond). Find the help finder here: <https://youngminds.org.uk/supporting-parents-helpfinder/>

A message from Miss Mann

Whether your child is working from home or in school, we know that these are not the easiest times for them, or for you, as parents. We fully appreciate all of your support with the remote learning and hope that you enjoys a lovely break from it over the next week. We look forward to brighter times ahead, when the St. Andrew's Community will be back together again.

I would like to thank all of the school staff for their hard work and commitment this term. Their continued enthusiasm and dedication makes me a very proud Headteacher.