

ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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

RECENT LETTERS AND NOTICES

School Meal Vouchers

For the next two weeks, families of children in receipt of free school meals will continue to receive a food hamper. After this, families will receive evouchers. More information will follow.

Changes in Reception

Mrs Vazquez, our RW Reception teacher, has now begun her maternity leave. We wish her all the very best and look forward to seeing her new baby soon. We welcome Mrs Katie Leach, who will continue to teach RW with Miss Ruth Mann. Mrs Illy Duce is teaching RB full time from this term.

Recent letters

Closing date for Reception applications was today.

Remote Learning update

Information about Teams Meetings

Food bank flyer

Welcome to 2021!

As we welcomed in a New Year, schools around the country were told to close for two weeks and then until half term. At St. Andrew's, we have followed the Government guidance and have continued to stay open for children of critical workers and vulnerable families. All the staff have been very positive and flexible, working different rotas, supporting children with home and school learning and supporting families with well-being calls.

Home and school education

In order for our children at home to have the same learning as the children in school, we have made sure that a teacher and teaching assistant support is both in class and at home supporting the online learning. One again, teachers have had to learn new skills very quickly, aside from actually teaching: recording lessons, uploading video demonstrations, screen sharing and making Teams calls and meetings. As you read in this week's letter from Miss Mann, we continue to improve our remote learning provision. Many thanks to all our staff, and in particular to Miss Jones (Assistant Head) for trying to find solutions to the hundreds of questions asked by parents and staff! We truly will all be experts very soon!

Learning at home and at school



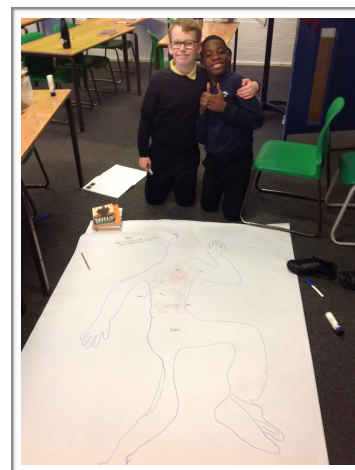
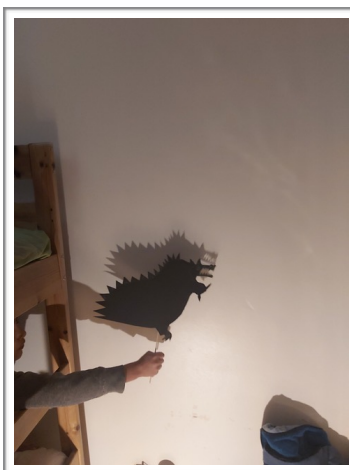
Below is a small selection of the fabulous work we have seen from children at home and at school this week.

Year 2 children have created pop art pictures in school, linked to their learning in history and English. They then studied the artist Roy Lichtenstein.

Reception children have created their own Aliens, after reading the book 'Aliens love Underpants.' It also links with their topic about Space.



Year 3 children have been creating fantastic shadow puppets, as part of their Science unit on Light. Meanwhile, in school, Year 6 children have been labelling the major organs of the body.



Thank you Thank you Thank you

On behalf of the office staff, support staff, teachers and Senior Leaders, we would like to say a huge thanks to our parents. You have been so supportive and so patient with the new situation. Your understanding of how difficult it is to run a school with changes at such short notice, has been much appreciated.

St. Andrew's School Food Bank

This week, we set up our food bank in the small hall, for donations of fresh and tinned food. Thanks to our wonderful staff and parents, we have been able to fill bags for 11 families today, in addition to the government food parcels.

We will continue our food bank next week, so please donate what you can. Here is a list of things we need:

Hot chocolate, tea, tins of sweetcorn, pasta, pasta sauce, shampoo, toilet roll, washing up liquid, squash, biscuits, cereal, bread, cheese, cheese triangles, yogurts, cucumber, carrots, onions.

Please drop off any day between 10.30am - 11.30am. Thank you.

More learning at home and at school



In **Year 5**, the focus in English has been on persuasive writing. Here are two fantastic examples of a travel brochure. I don't think we will need much persuading after things get back to normal!

Finally, in **Year 1**, the children have been learning all about where they live. Inaaya has been finding out where she lives on a world map.

As shown, we continue to teach all areas of the curriculum throughout the school closure and the teachers have been amazing in making the learning accessible to all.

Pastoral Support at St. Andrew's School

At St. Andrew's, the staff are here to offer support to all our families, whatever their circumstances. Here are some of the ways we continue to help.

We encourage our KS2 children to privately message their teachers on Teams, if they have concerns about their work. This is working really well and is a good way of children keeping in contact.

Phone calls and Teams Meets - it's always lovely to hear a voice or see a familiar face. Teams meetings and Zoom calls with the teachers, teaching assistants and groups of children, will be happening soon. Check the latest letter, which was emailed today.

Pastoral Support Advisor. Dr. Jo Griffiths, our PSA is continuing to support key children, through weekly zoom calls.

Miss Mann, (Headteacher) Mrs Statham, (Deputy Head) Mrs Bolton (Assistant Head) and Miss Jones (Assistant Head) are keeping in regular contact with vulnerable families, families of children with special needs and families who seek extra emotional support.

If you know of a family, who is struggling, or may need support in any other way, please ask to speak to one of the senior leaders, in confidence. We are all here to help.