



**St Andrew's**  
Church of England Primary School

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Monday 2nd May - SCHOOL  
CLOSED for Bank Holiday**

**Thursday 5th May - SCHOOL  
CLOSED for Polling Day**

### Summer is here

The summer term always brings excitement and fresh learning opportunities and two weeks in, we are seeing this throughout the school. It is so lovely to see all year groups playing on the field at lunchtimes. We have visitors booked in to speak to classes, trips out, sporting events and of course, our Platinum Jubilee celebrations, to plan.

### St. Andrew's Maintenance Fund

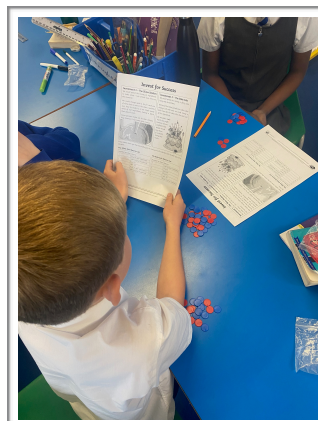
We currently have 60% of our school that have made their annual £35 maintenance payment. This covers the charge from the LDBS, which we have to pay each year. These funds are used to ensure that large repairs and maintenance can be carried out on our buildings each year, such as replacing boilers, roofing felt, school kitchen flooring and fixing major leaks.

**Sadly, if we do not receive enough payments, we have to make up the shortfall from our school budget.** This means that other items cannot be bought for classrooms.

Thank you to everyone who has already paid their maintenance contribution. If you have not yet made your payment, **please check on ParentPay** and if possible please make your payment soon.

### What has been happening at school?

In **5W**, things were getting very competitive, as the children took part in a game called 'Invest for Success' as part of the Money unit in **PSHE**. The lesson focused on financial risk. The children worked in pairs against each other, with each pair investing £20. The aim was to make more return on their money than the opposing group. As you can see, there was a lot of competition!!



This week, **4W** were learning about vibrations, as part of their **science** unit on Sound.

As part of their **RE** unit on Islam, **Year 1** children had a visit from Hiba's mum. She gave both classes an introduction to Islam and told them about the importance of the Koran. The children and staff learned so much about the muslim faith and the festivals they celebrate.

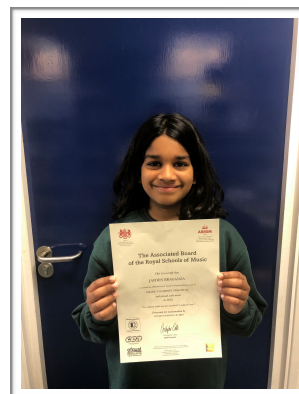


Meanwhile, **RB** took full advantage of the field being dry, to look for minibeasts in the hedgerows and long grass. This was linked to their topic called '**Into the Wild**' and our school grounds are perfect for discovering small insects.



### Music Success for Jayden

Congratulations to Jayden in Y4, who gained a merit in his Grade 3 clarinet exam. This is a fantastic result at such a high grade. We look forward to hearing Jayden play in assembly, soon



### National Tests

Many of our year groups will be taking national tests this term. Our Year 6 children will be taking their end of key stage SATs from 9th May, followed by the Year 2 children after that. Year 4 will have their Times Table Check in June and Y1 will take the Phonic Screening Check. This will be the first round of tests for all primary schools, since 2019, due to the pandemic.

### Curriculum Developments

In recent months, two of the focus areas in our curriculum have been in history and geography. The staff have used training days and staff meetings to develop subject knowledge in these areas, as well as plan units, which ensure children gain the essential historical and geographical knowledge and skills required.

From this term onwards, the teachers have created a *Knowledge Organiser* for the history or geography unit being studied. Each organiser shows on a A4 page, the key knowledge and facts, that children should know in that unit. Every child has one of these in their history or geography book and teachers will be going through each section at the start of the lessons. They may include a timeline of dates, a significant person or event or a diagram in geography. The Knowledge Organisers for this half term will be uploaded to our website under Curriculum. Teachers will also be adding them onto the class page on Teams, for parents to see.

### Another baby on the way...

Mrs Hill, our 5B teacher will be going on maternity leave at the end of next week. She is expecting a baby in May and will hopefully be able to enjoy some rest before the big day arrives. We wish Mrs Hill all the very best and look forward to seeing her and the baby in the near future. Miss Sally Taylor will be returning to work to take over from Mrs Hill, along with Mrs Pingram on a Wednesday.

### Dates

9th - 12th May - Year 6 SATs and SATs Breakfasts!

12th May - Y2 visit to the church

13th May - Y6 trip to Broomfield Park

