

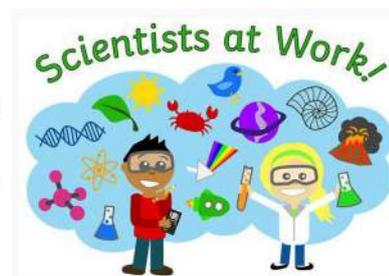
Headteacher: Mrs D. Thompson



I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10



The new academic year has started with changes to our curriculum. We are now teaching a connected curriculum that should do just what it says— make connections for children across different subjects and deepen knowledge and improve skills as they are learning. This term, the main focus subject has been science and a number of investigations and experiments have been carried out with much enthusiasm shown by the children. Many pupils have told staff that they are enjoying their learning and want to find out more. All parents and carers will have already received the Knowledge Organiser for this first half term and will have a second one on its way.



Our new Year R children started school on the 10th September and have shown what fantastic little stars they are. They have already been learning lots of sounds in Phonics sessions and how to tell and begin to construct a story in their writing. This week we had a Bedtime Story evening in Year R that was very well attended and it was great to see older and younger siblings come along too.

Harvest Service was held in September and was well supported by parents. We also had a HUGE amount of food donated to help the Food Bank. Thank you for your support. The Food Bank was delighted when they saw the number of boxes of food we had collected.



We are pleased to announce the arrival of two new babies. Mrs Archer has had a baby boy in the Summer Holiday. Baby Liam is now featuring in Year 1's Roots of Empathy programme. Mrs Clark has also had a baby boy called Arthur who is just a few days old. Mothers and babies are both doing well.

We have a new Lunchtime Supervisor starting after the holiday. She is called Mrs. Simmons and we welcome her onto team.

The Book People reading bus came to see us in September and this had very good attendance by parents and children and raised £80 commission for us to purchase books for each class. If you want to purchase books from the Book People online, they will donate to school if you select our school name at checkout.



Look at the website for more pics and stories: www.standrews.northants.sch.uk

Reception Year News

Bedtime Story Evening...

A massive thank you to all the parents, carers and children who came to our first EYFS bedtime story evening! Nearly 50 people from nearly 20 different families attended. Most people wore their pyjamas, hot chocolate was served, and Mr Reed and Mrs Hodson each read 3 stories that they had chosen especially. It was a fabulous evening, and we hope to hold another very soon! Watch this space!

'Children were very excited to come - we loved it!'

'All was wonderful'

'Thought it was brilliant - well done!'



The Little Red Hen



To enhance our Talk 4 Writing work on the story of Little Red Hen and to link to our Connected Curriculum on the body and senses, we took a walk to the local shop to buy a range of different breads. When we got back to school we tasted and discussed- the



favourite bread was definitely brioche!

Thanks to all the mums, dads and carers who have read the text map of this story with the children this term – so many of you commented that you had really enjoyed this at the parent's evenings.



Year 2 Have a Party!

In Year 2 this half term in our connected curriculum time, the children became party planners, focusing their learning on 'can party food be healthy?' Through our learning the children have learnt many new skills, including: materials and properties of items associated with a party, designing party hats, placemats and name cards, exploring artwork linked to a food theme, where our food has travelled from and learning party dances.

As a celebration of all of our hard work, we planned and organised a healthy party, making the food and decorations, as well as learning party dances to share.

On Tuesday 22nd October, we held our party. We had a great time eating and drinking the foods and drinks that we had devised and also performing our party dances that we had learnt as part of our PE time.



PE and School Sport Report

It's been a busy first term for Sports and PE and St Andrew's. The Year 5's went to Benham Sports Centre to be trained as Young Leaders, and are now ready in school to help deliver lunchtime activities and support after school sports clubs.

Some children in Year 6 attended a 4 week Student Aspiration Squad programme, where they took part in activities including climbing, tram building and trampolining. The children worked hard and impressed staff and instructors with their attitude and commitment.

10 children from Year 2 were selected to attend a Key Stage 1 multiskills competition. The children loved getting their first opportunities to represent the school in external competitions and did brilliantly!

Next term is another busy one, with athletics, multiskills, and curling competitions, as well as Mr Reed's new Archery club starting after school!



Safeguarding

As a school we feel it is important to bring to your attention some of the things going on in our area. This is not intended to scare anyone but instead inform parents of what is happening locally.

Gangs and young people:

If you're worried about gangs, it can be difficult to know what to do to help protect young people. Whether they're thinking about joining a gang, are already involved or want to leave, they need help and support. Children and young people involved with, or on the edges of, gangs might be victims of violence or they might be pressured into doing things like stealing or carrying drugs or weapons. They might be abused, exploited or put into dangerous situations.

For lots of young people, being part of a gang makes them feel part of a family so they might not want to leave. Even if they do, leaving or attempting to leave can be a really scary idea. They might be frightened about what will happen to them, their friends or their family if they leave.

Why children join gangs:

There are lots of reasons why young people feel the pressure to join gangs. They might be bored and looking for excitement or feel attracted to the status and power it can give them. They might join due to peer pressure, money or family problems. Gang membership can also make a child feel protected and that they belong.

If you are worried about your child and gangs ring the NSPCC advice line on 08088005000

Information taken from www.nspcc.org

What parents need to know about **TIKTOK**

Top Tips for Parents

DISCUSS THE PITFALLS OF OVERSHARING

Encourage your child to always think before they do, say, like or post anything online. Explain that their 'digital footprint' shapes their online reputation and the way that other people see them. Something they may find funny and entertaining now may impact them in the future. Talk about how to deal with peer pressure and how doing something they think will impress others could affect them. Remind them that they do not have to do anything they are not comfortable with. To ensure that there's no way of anyone tracking your child's location or identity, make it clear to them that they should never film a video in their school uniform or near a landmark that gives away where they live.

HANDLING CRITICISM

While it's fantastic to see your child being creative and expressive and bonding with people with similar interests, they need to be aware that not everyone will be supportive online. Comments can be negative or even cruel. Make sure your child knows how to comment respectfully and handle negative feedback. In the app's Privacy and Safety settings, your child can decide who can react to their videos, who can comment, and who can send them private chat messages. We suggest altering these settings so only their friends can interact with their posts.

REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

If you or your child sees something inappropriate on TikTok, you can flag up an account, video, comment or chat by simply tapping 'Report'. In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' feature, there's also an 'Enhanced Restricted Mode', limiting appearance of videos which may be inappropriate.

USE A PRIVATE ACCOUNT

Setting up a private account means that only people who you and your child approve of can see their creations. To make an account private, tap the three dots at the top right of the screen to access settings. Click 'Privacy and Safety'. Scroll down until you find 'Private Account' and turn this setting on.

SIGNING UP WITH THE CORRECT AGE

When signing up, users are prompted to input a their date of birth. If the inputted date of birth means your child is under 13, the app will block them. However, this doesn't prevent your child from lying about their age. The app is intended for users aged 13+, so explain the rating is there for a reason; to keep them protected from online dangers. It is actually possible to watch TikTok videos without creating an account, so make sure your child, if under 13, hasn't downloaded it.

USE THE 'DIGITAL WELLBEING' SETTING

If you're concerned about how long your child is spending on TikTok, it has a setting called 'Digital Wellbeing' which allows you to manage the amount of screen time your child can have. We also advise that you turn off push notifications in the settings to prevent your child from receiving 'spam-like' notifications from TikTok that encourage users to go on the app.

DISCUSS IN-APP PURCHASES

To lower the risk of your child making accidental in-app purchases, teach them exactly what in-app purchases are and the risks of making them without permission. Tell them that they are not essential to enjoy the app and that if they want to make a purchase, they should always ask you beforehand. In the app's 'Digital Wellbeing' feature, there is the option to disable the function of purchasing coins and sending gifts.

Users can also follow the account @tiktoktips, Tik Tok's official account fronted by established Tik Tok users which offers useful online safety tips for promoting safety on its platform, rather than hiding information in FAQs.

For more information www.nationalonlinesafety.com or www.parentzone.org.uk

St. Andrew's Governing Body

Following up on the short survey we did with parents last Autumn, we conducted another short survey over our last two parent evenings to see whether our parents are any more aware of who the Governors are and where they can find information about them.

We had an outstanding response with 158 parents completing the survey! Thank you to all who took the time to do so – it gave us plenty of feedback and food for thought. It was pleasing to note that parents in general are more aware of who the Governing Body members are, and more parents also know where to find out about them. Some queries were raised in respect of parking around the school and the use of the school as a polling station. As Governors, there is very little we can do about Parking, but one of our Governors has now identified the correct department of the Highways Office to whom we can apply for the allocation of traffic wardens to monitor the situation. We have also approached the local council in regard to the polling station usage and suggested an alternative venue. We are told that this will be investigated further, so hopefully more will be known in the near future.

Within the survey we also asked whether parents felt the school is well led by the leadership team and whether they would recommend the school to other parents. 92% felt the school is being well led and 94%

would recommend the school to other parents, so again, thank you for your confidence in the school team.

Obviously as governors we have some way to go to make ourselves more widely known to parents, but we do now have two new parent governors who have joined our 'Body' and we welcome them aboard as the year gets under way. All our Governors provide a short summary of themselves and what they do, which can be found on the school's website, and I urge you to take the time to read these.

Reading is a big focus for the school at the moment, and during a recent governor visit we were pleased to find that all the children spoken to were keen to read and enjoyed doing so! We would encourage our parents to spend some time with their children to read for a short time in the evenings and weekends as this will assist in their reading development. (Something Ofsted is apparently now focussing on in its new framework!)

Over the rest of the year we hope to provide you with more information about who we are and what we are doing in these newsletters so please, watch this space!

Sheila Moakes

Foundation Governor and Chair of Finance Committee



Family Learning

New course for parents and carers
at St Andrew's CEVA Primary School, Ecton Brook Rd, Ecton
Brook, Northampton NN3 5EN

**Thursday 14th November 2019 to
Thursday 12th December 2019 (5 sessions)**

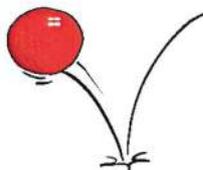
1.00pm – 3.00pm

Resilient Families

Families can face many challenges. Resilient families are able to 'bounce back' and move forward positively.

Come along and discover ways to make your family more resilient. The course will cover:

- What is resilience?
- How the brain reacts under stress
- The link between self-esteem and resilience
- Physical health and resilience
- Lots of practical information, advice and ideas to help build resilience in yourself and your family



Contact **Florette Francis (Family Support Worker)** on
01604 406486 to book your place.

First for
Wellbeing

SUPPORTING YOU TO TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR LIFE



St. Andrew's

Church of England Primary School

Sessions start 7th November 2019

Toddler & Pre-School Group

Term Time Thursdays

1.15pm - 2.45pm

FREE!!



**Fun, friendly and interactive
music classes for children aged
newborn to 4 years**

**Come and play with our puppets, scarves,
parachute and percussion instruments!**

☺ Parents/carers Tea & Biscuits provided!

Ecton Brook Road, Ecton Brook,
Northampton NN3 5EN

Tel: 01604 406486 for more details