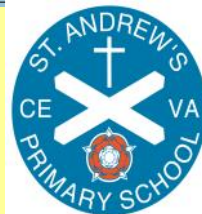




St. Andrew's CEVA Primary Newsletter December 2023



Head Teacher Mrs Val Griffiths

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock,
and it shall be opened unto you - Matthew 7:7



It has been another busy term and the children and staff have been working extremely hard.



Among the highlights, Year 5 presented an inspiring Collective Worship on Remembrance Day and Year 3 sang and played their Ukuleles beautifully to an audience of proud parents and staff. We have enjoyed participating in our usual Christmas activities, such as the Christingle Service, Year R Nativity, Christmas Carol Service, Christmas Disco and Christmas Lunch!

Our school community has continued to courageously support good causes including raising nearly £350 for Children in Need and collecting Christmas food donations for the Weston Favell Food Bank. The school choir sang Christmas Carols at the Weston Favell Shopping Centre on the morning of Saturday 9th December and raised £86 for the Weston Favell Food Bank. Thank you so much to the parents and carers who supported by cheering them along and giving generously.



Sadly, we are saying goodbye and good luck to three very valuable members of staff: Mrs Gentry, our assistant Head and SENDCO, and our Family Support Workers, Mrs Francis and Mrs Day. We are extremely grateful for their substantial contribution to the school community over the many years, 24 years for Mrs Francis! They have truly made a difference to the lives of many children and families over the years and they will be missed.

In January, we look forward to welcoming Mrs Matthes and Mrs Marsh to St. Andrew's. Mrs Matthes is an experienced SENDCO and will be working three days a week. She will be joining our Safeguarding Team with Mrs Marsh, who is currently a Family Support Worker at a local Primary School. You will see them on the school gates in January- please do introduce yourselves as they are eager to get to know our families.



It is with great pleasure that we announce that our school community has just been presented with a National Wellbeing Gold Award in acknowledgment of our participation in the Raising Attainment with Wellbeing Programme: Putting wellbeing at the heart of learning, teaching and leadership. We are extremely proud that our effort and hard work has been recognised and thank all staff involved, especially our Wellbeing Mentor, Mrs Spikings.

Finally, on behalf of the staff and Governors of St Andrew's CEVA Primary School we would like to wish you a very merry and peaceful Christmas and the happiest of new years. We look forward to seeing you all in the new year when the children return on Thursday 4th January 2024.



SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

As much as Christmas is a time for celebration it can also be a particularly stressful time for parents and carers for a variety of reasons. Here are some tips and useful links to help you.

We have also included some contact telephone numbers that you may either need or are able to signpost someone to.

Tips for keeping Children Safe at Christmas



<https://capt.org.uk/6-simple-safety-tips-to-keep-children-safe-this-christmas>

12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a **TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS**

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like ping-pong notifications, the lure of games consoles and online gaming day sales, that can be more difficult than it sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season. *We're glad you did Merry Christmas!

- CHRISTMAS CRAFTING**
Get out the paper, glue and scissors and make up all hand-making cards or gift tags. You could also create your own Christmas decorations to add a uniquely personal touch to the Christmas tree.
- NATURE QUEST**
Try to encourage your children to go outside and look for natural treasures that are a symbol of the time of year – like holly and ivy.
- CAROL KARAOKE**
Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol karaoke night. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.
- WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE**
How about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmas past? You could also make a memory box for the year ahead while you enjoy reliving those magical holiday moments.
- TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALING**
Get down your thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday in a notebook or diary – you could also set some of your family goals for the new year.
- WRAP IT UP**
Take time to get creative with your festive gift wrapping. You could also make a family gift tag and use it to wrap up your presents. You could also make a family gift tag and use it to wrap up your presents.
- WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND**
Design to the great outdoors with some festive walks over the holiday. The fresh air will do you good, so you add to your step count and enjoy the crisp winter air together.
- BE A SEASONAL CHEF**
Get the whole family working together in the kitchen to make Christmas cooking. Choose a recipe that's easy to make and let your children help out. You could also make a family recipe book for the year ahead.
- ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY**
Christmas is a perfect time for reading stories. Get your children to read a story to you or listen to a story being read to them. You could also make a family story book for the year ahead.
- SNOWY SCULPTURES**
If it's too hot to make snow, you can still have a snowman. You could also make a snowman out of clay or dough. You could also make a snowman out of clay or dough.
- GAMES NIGHT GALA**
Spend time with your family and enjoy a night of board games. You could also make a family game night for the year ahead.
- GOODWILL TO ALL**
You and your family could spend a day volunteering – perhaps at a food bank or helping a local charity. After all, kindness and sharing is what Christmas is all about.

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The National College
National Online Safety
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Northamptonshire Domestic Abuse Service (NDAS) - 0300 0120 154

The Sunflower Centre - 0300 303 1965 - email: info@voicenorthants.org

Refuge - 0800 2000 247

Respect Men's Advice Line - 0800 8010327

Mankind Initiative - 1823 334 244

Shelter - <https://england.shelter.org.uk/>
Childline/NSPCC - 0800 1111

Debt Advisory Centre - 0300 011 2340 <https://www.debtadvisorycentre.co.uk/>

Step Change 0800 138 111
<http://www.stepchange.org/>

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about **DISNEY+**

The Walt Disney Company's streaming service, Disney+, combines entertainment from the famous animation studio itself with Pixar, Star and National Geographic, plus the Marvel and Star Wars franchises. With access to the latest releases, Disney classics and original series, there's plenty of content to explore. While parents may have noticed that adverts have been introduced on some versions of the service, the platform is unsurprisingly for a Disney product – designed to be appropriate for the whole family.

- WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**
While Disney is predominantly family friendly, there are some movies and shows in its library which are aimed at an adult audience. These may scare younger viewers or contain themes that you'd rather your child wasn't exposed to. You could control what your child sees by enabling Junior Mode (see 'Adjust Content Settings' below) or specifying a content rating for your child's profile.
- LESS SUITABLE CONTENT**
Disney+ has introduced a new content rating system – Disney+ Standard with Ads – which plays advertisements before movies and during shows (like many TV channels). These ads are aimed at older children and adults, but parents with a content rating of 8+ years and older will see ads appropriate for their age group. Disney+ Standard with Ads will see personalised adverts based on their location and viewing history.
- ENCRUISING ADVERTS**
If adults don't set a PIN for their profile, children could access it and see content which isn't appropriate. In the settings, Junior Mode has a toggle for 'See-Proof Exit' which requires the user to read four words (numbers, spelled out) and enter them to switch profiles. For older children who can read, though, this isn't secure enough – so using a PIN for adult profiles is recommended.
- ACCESSING ADULTS PROFILES**
If adults don't set a PIN for their profile, children could access it and see content which isn't appropriate. In the settings, Junior Mode has a toggle for 'See-Proof Exit' which requires the user to read four words (numbers, spelled out) and enter them to switch profiles. For older children who can read, though, this isn't secure enough – so using a PIN for adult profiles is recommended.
- BINGE WATCHING**
With the option to view content on any internet-enabled device and a growing catalogue of movies, cartoons and documentaries, Disney+ can make managing screen time difficult. This could result in children binge-watching content, distracting them from activities like homework or sleeping. Too much screen time has also been shown to negatively impact mood, sleep patterns and weight.
- PHISHING EMAILS**
We especially caution if you receive emails or text messages purporting to be from Disney+. There have been numerous reports of online scammers impersonating Disney+ staff in an attempt to gain access to subscribers' personal information. Disney+ states it will never email or call customers asking for their payment details, their profile information or their password.
- ADJUST CONTENT SETTINGS**
When setting up an account, there's an option to create profiles for what's called 'Junior Mode'. This generally covers material that's suitable for children up to age 8 and is therefore family friendly. You can give older children a wider choice of viewing by building a standard profile, then going into the settings and choosing a content rating from one of the pre-set alternatives: 8+, 8+, 12+ or 14+.
- ADD PIN PROTECTION**
Disney+ enables you to effectively lock profiles behind a four-digit PIN. In particular, some of the shows on the platform's library contain adult themes for more mature audiences. Several hard-hitting dramas from US networks, so protecting parents' or older children's profiles with a PIN will help to prevent younger children stumbling across material which isn't intended for them.
- TURN OFF AUTO-PLAY**
When a cartoon, show or movie finishes, Disney+ uses algorithms to identify content with similar themes, which it thinks your child will like. This suggests that when automatically begins to play by default. There's an option to turn off this auto-play function in the profile settings, which will encourage your child to take a break from the screen and move on to a different activity.
- ENJOY AS A FAMILY**
When your child watches a movie or show on Disney+ for the first time, you may want to sit with them to ensure it's suitable. You could also sit with them when introducing them to older films that you haven't seen for years: your perception of what's appropriate has very probably changed, and some of the language and themes in movies from your own childhood may seem quite shocking today.

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Gold Tokens

At St. Andrew's, children can be awarded a special Gold token for outstanding behaviour, attitude and/or learning.

These tokens can only be awarded by Mrs Griffiths, Miss Davidson or Mrs. Gentry.

Gold tokens can be exchanged for 10 house tokens and Gold token winners have their certificate displayed in the Hall of Fame (otherwise known as the school foyer!).

We are proud to announce that the following children received a Gold token award for the Autumn term:

Year R Sywell – Romano

Year 3 Pitsford – Esmae

Year R Holcot – Luke D

Year 4 Denton – Ashley

Year 1 Overstone – Natas

Year 4 Brixworth – Francie

Year 1 Cogenhoe – Alexandru

Year 5 Isham – Stephanie

Year 2 Ecton – Chloe-Ann

Year 5 Althorp – Abel

Year 2 Wilby – Kacper

Year 6 Grendon – Harvey

Year 3 Moulton – Ella-Rae

Year 6 Lamport – Stefania

*Well done and congratulations to all
of the children!*

*We look forward to finding out who will get a Gold
token in the Spring Term!*



R.E. news

Year 4 and 5 trip to 'Narnia' at St Andrew's Church, Great Billing



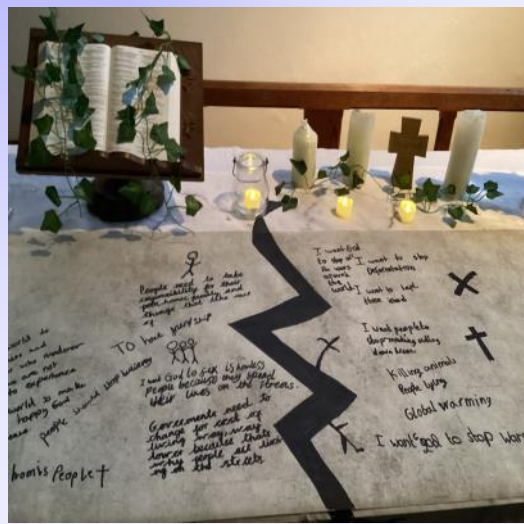
On Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th of December, Years 4 and 5 were lucky enough to go to our church, St Andrew's, for a really special 'Prayer Space' experience. The church had been transformed into the land of 'Narnia' from the *'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'* by C S Lewis. It was a truly magical experience.

The children had to walk through a wardrobe to enter the magical kingdom of Narnia. It literally took our breath away when we saw how wonderful the church looked. It was unrecognisable.

The children had six different stations that they could visit, each having a different focus, where they could reflect on a variety of personal and Christian beliefs and values, for example forgiveness, thinking about the broken things in our world and asking God to help us, thinking about positive things in our world that we should be thankful for, along with others.

The children had a wonderful time and it was lovely to get the opportunity to take some time out of the school day to reflect and connect with our spirituality.

A huge thank you to Leah Peters and The Lighthouse Trust for their hard work and the beautiful, calm space that they created.



Year R News

This term our topic has been 'Festivals and celebrations' where we have been learning about Bonfire Night, Diwali, Christingle and Christmas. We have been busy creating decorations to make our classroom look wonderful and bright to fit in with our 'Festival and celebrations' theme.



This term in Talk 4 Writing we studied the story of 'The Enormous Turnip' where the children created actions to remember the story and made changes to the story. We have also looked at the story of 'The Bossy King' which related to our nativity production. Recently we have been practising our songs and getting ready for our show, where we performed 'The Bossy King' to the rest of the school and to our parents, we did amazing and worked so hard! The show was awesome!



We have been on our first ever school trip to the farm this term and we got to meet Santa and his elves!

We behaved so well on the trip and the teachers were really proud of us!



Well done to our I Aspire winners this term!

Sywell: Makhosazana, Alicja, Romano, Zane, Aimy, Vianna, Zane and Lerato

Holcot: Hadassah, Asher, Esther, Elissia, Arya, Joshua and Elna

Gold token winners:
Luke. D and Romano



Thank you for all your support this term and don't forget to practise name writing, phonics and numbers at home. Along with reading 5 times per week and signing the yellow reading journal.

Please get involved by posting on tapestry. We would love to see what you are doing at home! Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year Year :)



Year 1 News

The children in Cogenhoe and Overstone have had a super term!

During the term, we assessed the children's progress in reading, writing and maths since we started back to school. We are so proud of the children and the hard work they have put in. Their progress has been wonderful, it is vital that all children read at least 5 times a week to support their development.



In English, we have had a busy half-term completing our innovated stories for defeating a monster. The children have loved learning the story of *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* this term, and have made their own versions of the story. The children showcased some wonderful drama where they acted out being the three billy goats and the troll.



In Maths, we have continued to develop the children's fluency in numbers, we have focused on Number bonds to 10. We have also looked at odd and even numbers in our maths mastery helping to increase

In computing, the children have been learning about different types of technology. They have learnt about the components that make up both a desktop computer and a laptop. The children have used a laptop to learn how to type by using the track pad and keyboard.

In science, we have been looking at materials and the children have become material detectives.

The children have used their knowledge to identify what different objects are made from. They discovered that some objects are made from more than one material.

We explored the properties of materials and tested them to find out if they were absorbent.

Well done to these children who have received the I ASPIRE certificates this term:

Filip	Mariah	Jairus
Pola	Idris	Lily C
Michal	Eilayah	

The children really enjoyed making their Christingles. As a class we lit them and enjoyed singing our Christingle songs. The children were very excited for the Christingle service.



We would like to take the opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming the children back in January.

The Year 1 team



Year 2 News

Well done Year 2, we have completed our first full term! The children have risen to every challenge and new experience.

We have continued to build on our phonics knowledge this term, so we would be very grateful if you could support this knowledge by spending time reading with your child. We expect 5 reads every week.



As Mathematicians we have been learning all about the four operations. We have been using the column method to add and subtract, as well as beginning to think about the multiplication and division facts. It would be great if over the Christmas holiday you could keep this information fresh by using your TT Rockstars login!



As scientists we have been learning all about minibeasts and microhabitats. We had a great time exploring our local area to see what minibeasts we could find.



As designers we have been designing and creating our own Ferris Wheels. We have enjoyed working in our groups to create our final products.



Our I ASPIRE Stars this half term are

Ecton: Elsie-Rose, Amika, Siriyah, Joseph, Jude, Mateo, Lia

Wilby: Damian, Briana, Maya, Godsway, Ruben, Henry, Chloe

Our Gold Token winners were Chloe-Ann and Kacper! Well done we are so proud of you all.

As writers we have been exploring finding tales. We have had great fun creating our own character descriptions and using them in our own finding stories. Take a look at an example below!

The mysterious man waited in the shadows silently looking for some money. His evil, creepy, mean eyes stared in the darkness curiously. Sharp, yellow teeth snarled as his spiky, white beard shields his ugly face. An expensive, black, shiny hat glistened.

—Henry

Year 3 News



The Year 3 children performed their Ukulele skills to an audience this term. They were fantastic, both in their music lessons and during the performance. We were very proud of them!



Science

This term, we have been learning about forces and magnets.

We investigated how friction can have an impact on several different objects.

We investigated how magnets can attract and repel.

Geography



We have been learning about volcanoes, earthquakes and rocks.

Did you know that most volcanic and earthquake activities are on tectonic plate boundaries?



Spanish

This term in Spanish, we have learnt how to count to 12 and how to ask questions. *Do you know how to count in a different language?*



Christingle Service



Well done to these children for showing the I ASPIRE values:

Esmae, Levi, Nicole, Rafal, Lucas, Tiarna, Ollie, Colin, Zariyah, Rodney, Markus, Adineke, Sidney, Nathanael.

I ASPIRE STAR



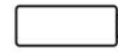
Year 4 News



Science — Electricity and circuits

This term we have been building electrical circuits. We have learnt that you need several components to complete a full circuit. Components such as batteries, a bulb and a couple of wires. We have also been learning what materials are conductors or insulators.

battery/cell



wire



bulb



Maths

We have been learning how to add and subtract, using new methods and strategies. The word problems were challenging but we persevered. We have continued to practice our times tables.

English

In English, we have written an information text and investigated the discovery of five new islands found in the Atlantic Ocean. All TOP SECRET! We have learnt how to use generalisers, determiners, fronted adverbials, direct speech and lots of new exciting vocabulary.

We have also learnt 18 new spellings in our daily Fast Spellings activity.

R.E

In R.E. we have been learning about festivals and celebrations in our lives. This included the celebrations in the Jewish, Sikh and Hindu religions such as Pesach, Yom Kippur and Vaisakhi.

Ask your children what these sentences say.

Tengo un gato.

Tengo un perro.

Tengo un pez negro.

Tengo una Tortuga blanca.



Music

Do you know the difference between a Glockenspiel and Xylophone?

Year 4 do! We have been learning to play our brand new glockenspiels. The children have had to focus on their timing, using the correct techniques to play the instruments and learning to read music.

Geography

Can you name all the biomes in the world? Year 4, have been learning about the Amazon Rainforest. We have discovered that there are 4 layers to the rainforest all with different features. As well as this, we have learnt how important the rainforest is to the Earth.



I ASPIRE NAMES

Brixworth—Cheryl, Francie, Luca, Oliver Z, Seth, Sarah and Riley-Marie.

Denton — Austina, Erlandas, Ashley, David, Skylily and Zara.



Remember to read during the holidays!

Year 5 News



Lest we forget



Year 5 were delighted to welcome their parents into school to join them in their Remembrance Collective Worship Assembly on Tuesday, 7th November. Not only this, but they were invited to perform their song 'Fields of Poppies' again for the whole school.



Year 5 had an amazing time at the Narnia Prayer experience at the church. They all came back saying how beautiful and peaceful it was.



Science - this term we have been investigating materials and their properties. Here we are testing different objects for their hardness and how the materials are used according to their purpose.

Odd Socks Day— 13th November



Year 5 enjoyed sharing their differences by wearing their odd socks to support the Anti-Bullying Week.

OUR I ASPIRE WINNERS

Well done to all of you for your hard work this term.

Althorp: Abbas, Adora, Bentley, John, Roy and Sasha

Isham: Ora-Maria, Savellii, Kamsi, Eugene, Calin and Stephanie

Gold Token winners: Abel and Stephanie.



Mrs Johnson and Mrs Kinton would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the children and their families for their hard work this term. We wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas along with our very best wishes for the New Year.



Year 6 news



Year 6 was delighted to welcome Wyn into school to learn about the life and heroic achievements of William Coltman who, hearing that wounded had been left behind, went into the face of enemy fire, to find casualties and take them back to safety.



TRAPPED!

This term we have been working on our use of 'show not tell' and figurative language to write poetry, diary entries and narratives to develop suspense in our writing.

Dazzling light shone from the beast's pearly eyes,

Ominous shadows filled the mossy walls.

Sad souls pierced the walls as the creature approached,

Darkness spread across the derelict room.

Raspy breath racing into the night sky,

Skeletal arms reaching for the gloom.

Fear bounced off the ebony windows and nightmares roamed the house

Lexi

It was a dark night, the air was cold. Shivers ran down my spine. I moved like a turtle through the deserted park. Ahead, a skeletal tree swayed creepily; I heard whispers among me. Goosebumps rose and beads of sweat slowly ran down my forehead. I needed to get out of there. Shadows stretched along the pathways and I knew I should have taken the other way home. I didn't listen. My legs took me like the wind and waves of fear crushed me.

Rachael

Christingle

A beautiful service.



Enjoyed by all.



I-ASPIRE— Well done to all of you for your hard work this term.

Lamport: Tayshaun, Esmae, Olivia, Mason, Dragos, Izabela and Keira.

Grendon: Katerina, Niko, Aaisha, Harvey, Joshua, Kendra and Mileta.

Gold token winners: Stefania and Harvey.

Ms Holmes and Mrs Connors would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the children and their families for their hard work this term. We wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas along with our very best wishes for the New Year.

