



## Newsletter 11



*"Following God's path to flourish in life"*

**Mr P Hayward: Headteacher**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

In **Willow Class** this week, the children have enjoyed starting their new unit of writing which is based on the text 'Vlad and The Great Fire of London'. The children made predictions about the plot, setting and characters before they finally read their stories to each other. The children have all enjoyed learning about Diwali, creating Diva lamps, Mehndi handprints and Rangoli patterns. The children were also fascinated by the story of Sita and Rama.

It's been another super week of learning from **Oak Class**. In History, the children read extracts of Samuel Pepys' diary from the time of the Great Fire of London. They found out more about what happened during the Great Fire by using this first-hand source of information. They have also started to learn songs and dances from the upcoming Christmas show, 'Lights, Camel, Action!', along with Willow Class. As you can see from the photograph, the children's collage birds from Art Day last week have now taken up residence in our Reflective Area and look amazing!

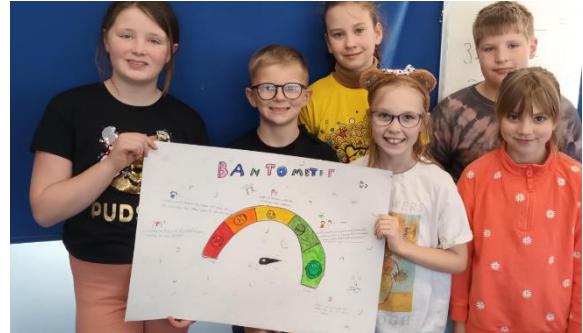


In English, the children in **Beech Class** have been reading Roald Dahl's *The Twits*. They have enjoyed finding out about the different tricks that Mr and Mrs Twit play on each other and have written about their favourite one. They have worked on using inverted commas to punctuate a conversation between the two characters. In Maths, the children begun exchanging when adding two 3-digit numbers. They used place value counters and pictorial representations to help them answer questions using the newly introduced column method. In Science, the children have started learning about light. This week, they tested a range of materials to see which was the most reflective. When learning about dance in PE, the children created a movement phrase (a series of linked movements) to represent the weather in a rainforest.



**Elm Class** are working hard on their reading skills. The group who are reading the *BFG* by Roald Dahl enjoyed reading the section where Sophie meets the Queen. They practiced reading with expression and explained the meanings of new words such as petrified, gaping and absurd.

In **Sycamore Class**, the children have been writing up their end of unit pieces all about the poem Macavity, showing great understanding of the poem and the features it has. In History, the children have started learning about the Shang Dynasty and researched the importance of the Yellow River. In Science, the children created circuits and connected different metals to their circuit to see which metal was the better conductor to make the light shine brighter. In DT, the children created circuits and used a motor to make different objects move. In PSHE, the children celebrated anti-bullying week by creating a Bantometer to show when banter becomes bullying. In Forest School, the children created a fire and ate marshmallows.



To finish off our Remembrance commemorations, **Maple Class** children have drafted, edited and written up their own personal poems of remembrance. Not only are they thoughtful and compassionate poems but the children have presented them beautifully. Attached is a photograph of just a few of them. They will be displayed along with our wooden poppy wreath. On Thursday the children had a full morning of DT, with Mr Hayward, where they had a great time getting to grips with gears and pulleys. Their lego creations are very impressive.



### Little Wandle E-Books Questionnaire

I would be grateful if parents of children in Willow and Oak Classes, whose children read Little Wandle e-books at home could complete a questionnaire. The school governors would like to understand what devices parents access the e-books on. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to complete the short questionnaire. Thank you.

### Sandwiches Only - Wednesday 29th November 2023

This is to give you advance warning, that on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November, the school hall will be out of use. The reason is, the afternoon before, a portable squash court will arrive and be erected in the hall. During the whole of Wednesday (29<sup>th</sup>) children will have the opportunity to learn a little about the sport squash and have a go in the court. As you can imagine, this will make serving hot meals a challenge. Therefore, a choice of sandwiches will be available only. So that the correct food orders can be placed, it would really help the kitchen staff to know how many sandwiches are needed. Therefore, could you please complete the menu order to let school know if you intend to order sandwiches. Please complete the form below, even if you do not wish to order a sandwich from school otherwise office staff will call you to make sure an order has not been missed. [CLICK HERE](#) to let us know your preferred option for your child. Please complete one form for each child. Once you have completed a form for one child and submitted it, click on the link again and a new form should appear.

### Applications for Reception-age children 2024 - REMINDER

Parents are now able to apply for school spaces for their children to start school in September 2024. This is done through the school admissions team at Staffordshire County Council. The deadline for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The easiest way for parents to apply is online. Further information can be found on their website. [CLICK HERE](#)

### OPEN MORNING – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 - Reminder

We will be hosting an open morning on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November. Doors will open at 9.30am and families looking for places at St Andrew's are invited to look round school. This Open Morning is primarily aimed at children starting school in September 2024 but will be open for families who have children in other year groups thinking about joining St Andrew's. Please spread the news about this event. Thank you.

### School Dinner Menu for the week commencing Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November

MENU	WEEK THREE
MONDAY	Pizza Mac & Cheese (V) or Mild Sweet Potato & Chickpea with Rice (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Rainbow Veg Scoop of Vanilla Ice Cream (V)
TUESDAY	Chicken Tandoori with Golden Rice (Wg) or Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Sweetcorn, Green Beans Peach & Pineapple Crumble (Ve)(Wg) with Custard (V)
WEDNESDAY	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy or Veggie Sausage Toad in the Hole with Roasties & Gravy Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Cabbage, Sliced Carrot Strawberry Jelly and Pineapple (Ve)
THURSDAY	Chicken, Broccoli & Sweetcorn Pasta Bake (Wg) or Penne with Beany Bolognese (Ve)(Wg) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Swede, Shredded Carrots Chocolate Mousse with Mandarins (V)
FRIDAY	Fish Fingers with Chips or Garden Vegetable Goujons with Chips (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Baked Beans, Garden Peas Iced Shortbread (Ve)

### PEP THE POET – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November

On Tuesday, Pep the poet will be visiting school. He will work with each class throughout the day, focusing on fun poetry. Pep is a published author and will be around after school to sell signed copies of his books.



PEP THE POET



STAA are having a  
Collection  
**Bag 2 School**



Everyone is welcome to get involved.  
We will distribute bags to all children on  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November

**Please return your full collection bags on  
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November by 9AM**

Please give any good quality, clean clothes, bedding, curtains, soft  
toys, belts, handbags and shoes – Thanks!

**This week's attendance**

Willow	Oak	Beech	Elm	Sycamore	Maple
90.7%	96.9%	94.4%	93.8%	95%	97.9%

Maple Class are having a good run. Well done children.  
38 days of education were lost to absence this week.

**Pupils of the week...**



Well done to Evan, Holly, Maisie, Reggie, Hannah, Iona, Matilda, Finley, William, Charlotte, Hugo, Isaac, Ava and Elsie for demonstrating the school's core values.

### CHILL – Wrap-around-care

Online booking forms are available on the school website. Please make all bookings by 1pm on Friday the week before and ensure payment has been made in advance via Parentpay or childcare vouchers activated.

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS SCHOOL WEB PAGE FOR BOOKINGS](#)

**Chill emergency phone number – 07535042629**

**Enquiries to** Sue McCoskry - [chill@st-andrews-weston.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:chill@st-andrews-weston.staffs.sch.uk)

### And finally...

I have been looking at the calendar and noticed that for the rest of the term there is something going on at least once a week. Please do keep an eye on Class Dojo and the newsletter because I don't want children to miss out. I would really appreciate it if the "Sandwiches" form could be filled in by all families and the Little Wandle questionnaire completed by families whose children are reading Little Wandle e-books at home.

Mr Hayward.

### Prayer Space

#### A prayer for peace

**Lord, sometimes it feels like the whole world is at war.**

**Help us not to forget that there is peace in the world.**

**Peace, when someone comforts the sick,**

**Peace, when someone says thank you,**

**Peace, when song of praise is sung**

**Peace, knowing you are near.**

**Thank you for reminding us that, like you, we too are peace-makers**

**Amen.**

[CLICK HERE to access our FACEBOOK page](#)



### Term Dates and Events for the Year 2023 - 2024

#### Autumn Term 2023

Tuesday 21 November	Whole school poetry day Pep the Poet will be in school
Tuesday 28 November	OPEN MORNING 9.30am – 11.00am
Wednesday 29 November	School enrichment day – Squash and Racquetball
Thursday 30 November	Open the Book assembly – St Andrew's Day
Thursday 30 November	Governors' Local Academy Committee meeting 6.00pm
Friday 8 December	School Christmas Fair – 3.30pm
Monday 11 December	School Christmas discos
Wednesday 13 December	Year 1 & 2 visit to Ford Green Hall

Thursday 14 December	Christmas pantomime in school
Tuesday 19 December	Willow and Oak Children's Christmas Performances
Wednesday 20 December	KS2 Carol Concert in Church 1.30pm TBC
Thursday 21 December	School Christmas Dinner
Friday 22 December	Last day of term

**Christmas Holiday:** Monday 25 December – Friday 6 January

### **Spring Term 2024**

Monday 8 January Term starts

**Half term break:** Monday 12 February – Friday 16 February

Thursday 14 March	Governors' Local Academy Committee meeting 6.00pm
Wednesday 20 March	
Friday 31 March	

**Easter Holiday:** Monday 25 March – Friday 5 April

**Easter Sunday:** Sunday 31 March

### **Summer Term 2024**

Monday 8 April	Term starts
Wednesday 10 April	Elm Class (Year 4) to Laches Wood – Residential visit
Friday 12 April	Elm Class return from Laches Wood
Monday 22 April	Stafford's Gotta Dance 6.00pm – 9.00pm
Monday 6 May	School closed – May Day
Thursday 16 May	Governors' Local Academy Committee meeting 6.00pm

**Inset day: Friday 24 May**

**Half Term Break:** Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May

**Inset day: Monday 3 June**

Thursday 20 June	Governors' Local Academy Committee meeting 6.00pm
Thursday 4 July	Mid-Trent MAT Board meeting
Friday 19 July	Leavers assembly 2.00pm

**Inset day: Monday 22 July**

**Summer Holiday:** Tuesday 23 July – Friday 30 August 2024

### **Term Dates for 2024 – 2025**

#### **Autumn Term 2024**

**Inset day:** Monday 2 September

**Term Starts:** Tuesday 3 September

**Holiday:** Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

**Term Ends:** Friday 20 December

**Holiday:** Monday 23 December – Friday 3 January

#### **Spring Term 2025**

**Term Starts:** Monday 6 January

**Holiday:** Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February

**Term Ends:** Friday 11 April

**Holiday:** Monday 14 April – Friday 25 April

**Easter Sunday:** Sunday 20 April

**Summer Term 2025**

**Term Starts:** Monday 28 April

**May Day:** Monday 5 May

**Holiday:** Monday 26 May – Friday 30 May

**Term Ends:** Monday 21 July

**Holiday:** Tuesday 22 July – Friday 29 August