



Newsletter 13



"Following God's path to flourish in life"

Mr P Hayward: Headteacher

Friday 1st December 2023

The children in **Willow Class** enjoyed a range of activities this week. They thoroughly enjoyed learning some new skills on Wednesday when playing squash. The children worked hard practising their throwing and catching skills, they also enjoyed using the rackets to hit the ball in the squash court. During PE and at their Christmas play rehearsals, the children have learnt dance routines to perform during the production, 'Lights, Camel, Action!' They enjoy listening to the music, learning the lyrics and adding the actions too.

The rehearsals for the KS1 and Reception Christmas play are in full swing and the children in **Oak Class** are thoroughly enjoying singing and dancing. The Year 2 actors are working really hard to project their voices and deliver their lines with expression. In English this week, Oak Class were excited to find out what happened at the end of their class text 'The Baker's Boy and the Great Fire of London' and have identified, ordered and recalled the key events in the story. In Maths lessons, Year 2 have been learning about the sides and vertices of 2D shapes, whilst Year 1 children have been consolidating their understanding of place value up to 20.

In RE, the children in **Beech Class** learnt about the Ten Commandments. They found out that God gave them to Moses when he prayed to God for help. The children discussed which they thought were the most important and put them in order accordingly. In computing, the children learnt about computer networks. They were challenged to create their own network by passing messages around the classroom without moving from their seats. They then found out that putting a network switch in helps to speed up the process with messages being sent directly from the sender to the receiver. In History, the children started to learn about the Roman Empire. They found out how the Roman Empire started and how it became so successful. On Wednesday, the children had a fantastic time in their PE lesson with the visiting squash coaches. They learnt some basic squash skills and had a whole class rally.





The children in **Elm Class** have been making the most of the frosty days this week. The children have been listening to, writing and sharing different types of syllabic poems, all with the theme of *WINTER*. Wrapping up warmly, they went out looking for inspiration and were fascinated by the tiny icicles on leaves, the crunchy sounds their feet made on the frozen ground, the long shadows caused by the low sun, and the way everything sparkled in the sun.

In **Sycamore Class**, the children have been learning about Fu Hao in History and how from the different artefacts found in her tomb, we can learn about her. Just like archaeologists. In Science, the children have been looking at soluble and insoluble materials and seeing what materials dissolve in water. In Maths, the children have been comparing and adding fractions, changing denominators and converting improper fractions into mixed numbers. In DT, the children have been sawing pieces of wood to make chassis ready for their own motor car. In English, the children have started writing their own Just So Stories, thinking of imaginative ways an animal can get a feature and adding lots of description. In Computing, the children have been looking at different search engines and seeing how to use them correctly and efficiently.

In **Maple Class**, the highlights have been (according to the children): learning how to play Squash and managing a rally of 68 hits; creating circuits and watching lightbulbs light up and adding a switch to turn them on and off; reading 'Letters from the Lighthouse' as it is getting very exciting; helping put the stage out for the KS1 and Reception production; non-uniform day; learning more about fractions and finally putting the Christmas decorations on the Christmas Tree.

Christmas Cards

A tradition at St Andrew's is to not give out Christmas cards to people who we see every day but instead use the money we would spend on the cards to improve the lives of those less fortunate. From Monday 4th December, the children will be able to "purchase" a Christmas message card. The cards will be displayed in school and then they will be read out to the school on the last day. All money raised will be used to support Oxfam's charity work. Donations for Christmas message cards will be able to be made via Parent Pay.



Heavy Snowfall

In the case of a heavy snowfall we will endeavour to open school. Closing a school is always a last resort. The safety of the school site, whether staff can get to work, of those that can get to work, will they be able to provide for the needs of the children (eg food, supervision) are all factors that influence the decision to close school. If school is going to close, parents will be informed via Class Dojo, no later than 7.30am.



Come to Narnia this Christmas!



The Mid-Trent Churches Narnia Experience at St Andrew's Church Weston

Saturday 9th December at 4.00pm

Please be Prompt or you will miss the start of the journey!

Bring all the family to experience the magic of Narnia and discover the meaning of Christmas. Step through the wardrobe into the magical world of Narnia. Come with us on a journey to find Aslan and defeat the White Witch's winter spell.

On the way, there will be crafts, activities and light refreshments and if we are successful, Father Christmas may make an appearance! There will be no charge for this event and no booking necessary.

School Dinner Menu for the week commencing Monday 4th December

MENU	WEEK TWO
MONDAY	Veggie Sausage (V) or Pork Sausage with mash (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Rainbow Veg Scoop of Vanilla Ice Cream (V)
TUESDAY	Chicken Paella (Wg) or Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Sweetcorn, Green Beans Apple & Pear Crumble (Ve)(Wg) with Custard (V)
WEDNESDAY	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy or Handmade Veggie & Stuffing Roll with Roasties & Gravy (Ve) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Cauliflower, Carrot Batons Orange Jelly and Mandarins (Ve)
THURSDAY	Penne with Beef Bolognese Tomato Sauce(Wg) or Penne with Classic Tomato Sauce (Ve)(Wg) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Cabbage, Garden Peas Banana Custard
FRIDAY	Fish Fingers with Chips or Vegeball Marinara Sub with Chips (V) Choice of Jackets, Sandwiches or Tomato Pasta Baked Beans, Garden Peas Chocolate Shortbread (Ve)

This week's attendance

Willow	Oak	Beech	Elm	Sycamore	Maple
97.4%	100%	93.8%	98.3%	96.0%	98.9%

Well done to the children in Oak Class this week. Perfect attendance.
17 days of education were lost to absence this week.

Pupils of the week...



Well done to Herbie, Chase, Imogen, Harry, Ivy, Alice, George and Isabella 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

And finally...

A great big thank you to the Open the Book team who led our St Andrew's Day celebrations. With children from Sycamore Class, the Open the Book team told the story of how St Andrew was chosen by Jesus to be his follower. A lovely way to celebrate ST Andrew's Day. Mr Hayward.

Prayer Space

A prayer for advent

Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day, we who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.

Amen.

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



Term Dates and Events for the Year 2023 - 2024

Autumn Term 2023

Tuesday 5 December	Reception Children to Marquis Drive
Wednesday 6 December	Wheelchair Basketball at Weston Road Academy
Friday 8 December	School Christmas Fair – 3.30pm
Saturday 9 December	Narnia Experience at St Andrew's Church 4.00pm
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
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