

Koinonia- Wisdom-Love- Perseverance



It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.

Parable of the Mustard Seed- Matthew 13:31-32

Message from Miss Mills

Dear Families

What a week it has been at St Andrews Primary! As I reflect on everything we've accomplished, I'm filled with immense pride and gratitude for our entire school community. This week has truly embodied our motto, '**grow and flourish**', and our vision, inspired by the parable of the mustard seed.

A huge thank you to the parents of **SASA** for their incredible dedication to our new reading shed. The progress this week has been phenomenal, with the electrics fitted and the shed beautifully decorated. The children are buzzing with excitement, and I know this lovely space will soon be a cherished spot for quiet reading and storytelling.

We also had some wonderful visitors this week. Mrs. Gethin, along with a director and governor, spent time with us and were incredibly complimentary about the **calm and purposeful learning environment** they observed. Our link director, Rev'd Jules Smith, even remarked, "It's got a lovely feeling to the school—you just feel it walking around." These words mean so much because they speak to the heart of what we strive to create: a welcoming, nurturing place where every child can thrive.

This week, our **Willow and Oak** classes went on their first swimming lesson, and the staff there were full of praise for our children. Their excellent behaviour and positive attitudes are a testament to the values we instil here at St Andrews.

Today, we see our **Willow classes** from both Mary Howard and St Andrews come together for their first ukulele lesson of the year, bringing our community even closer. And our newest members, the **Reception children**, continue to settle in so well, a true reflection of the care and support they receive. We are also delighted to be showing prospective parents around our wonderful school, sharing the special atmosphere we all get to experience.

With so much to celebrate and so much to look forward to—including exciting trips to Whittington Barracks and the Arboretum in Alrewas—the future is bright.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,

Warm regards,

Rachel Mills

Executive Headteacher

What's coming up this week...

Monday 15th September

PE Kit - Whole School

Swimming for Willow & Oak Class please bring your kit.

Tuesday 16th September

Wednesday 17th September

Thursday 18th September

PE Kit - Maple & Oak Class

Friday 19th September

PE Kit - Willow Class

Ukulele lessons - Willow Class

The Library Bus is here! Please bring back your books to change

Please access the Schools' website for key events -

St Andrew's- [Upcoming Events | St. Andrew's CE Primary School](http://st-andrews-cliftoncampville.staffs.sch.uk)
(st-andrews-cliftoncampville.staffs.sch.uk)

Dates to note...

September

- 24th September Academy Photography - Individuals & Siblings
- 26th September - Macmillan Coffee morning - please bring in cake donations!

October

- 2nd October - Harvest Church Service 9:15am
- 3rd October - Rock up and read 8:45 - 9:15am
- 7th October - Arboretum Trip for Oak (Class 3)
- 7th October - Parents Evening 3-6pm
- 14th October - Whittington Barracks trip - Willow (Class 2)
- 14th October - Parent Forum 2:45pm
- 22nd October - Mental Health & Wellbeing day
- 23rd October - Let your light shine worship 3pm

November

- 7th November - Rock up and read 8:45 - 9:15am
- 10th November - Odd Socks day
- 13th November - KS2 Derby Faith Trail
- 14th November - Children in need - non uniform day (wear spotty clothes)
- 14th November - Anti bullying show and share
- 17th November - Flu Vaccination Programme

Dinners for Week Commencing 15th September 2025 - Week 3

Parents can now start ordering meals for their children on Arbor -
 Option A will always be the Meat option and Option B will always be the veggie option
 Please start giving this a go and let the office know if you are having any troubles with this.
 We will still be checking meals ordered with the children in the mornings.

WEEK 1



CHEEKY MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Vegan Sausage Roll
 Pork Hot Dogs
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day or salad and chips
 TO FINISH
 Chocolate Brownie

PASTA TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Macaroni Cheese with Garlic Bread
 Pasta and Meatballs
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day or Salad
 TO FINISH
 Yogurt or Jelly

PIZZA WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Homemade Margherita Pizza
 Homemade Pepperoni Pizza
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day or salad and crinkle cut wedges
 TO FINISH
 Homemade Cookies

CHICKEN THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Vegan Chicken Nuggets
 Chicken Korma and Rice
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day or Salad and Diced Potatoes
 TO FINISH
 Chocolate Sponge

FISH FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Quorn Sausages
 Breaded Cod
 ON THE SIDE
 Peas or beans and Chips
 TO FINISH
 Ice Cream or Ice Lolly

WEEK 2

Our primary school menus comply with the Government's food and nutritional standards, meeting an average of 530 calories for each meal

CHEEKY MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Cheese and Onion Pasty
 Chicken Nuggets
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day or Salad and Chips
 TO FINISH
 Croissants

PASTA TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Tomato and Basil Pasta Bake
 Ham Carbonara with Pasta and Garlic Bread
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day or Salad
 TO FINISH
 Banana Sponge or Yoghurt

PIZZA WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Homemade Margherita Pizza
 Homemade Cheese and Ham Pizza
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day or salad and crinkle cut wedges
 TO FINISH
 Jelly or Yoghurt

CHICKEN THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Vegan Chicken Nuggets
 Chicken Burger
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day or Salad and Diced Potatoes
 TO FINISH
 Toffee Sponge

FISH FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Vegan Sausage Roll
 Breaded Cod
 ON THE SIDE
 Peas or beans and Chips
 TO FINISH
 Ice Cream or Ice Lolly

WEEK 3



CHEEKY MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Vegan Sausage Roll
 Beef Burger
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day or Salad and Chips
 TO FINISH
 Raisin Sponge

PASTA TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Mediterranean Veg Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread
 Spaghetti Bolognese
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day or Salad
 TO FINISH
 Homemade Cookies

PIZZA WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Handmade Margherita Pizza
 Homemade Ham and Sweetcorn Pizza
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day and crinkle cut wedges
 TO FINISH
 Chocolate Sponge

CHICKEN THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Vegan Chicken Nuggets
 Italian Chicken
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day or Salad and Diced Potatoes
 TO FINISH
 Jelly and Yoghurt

FISH FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ✓ Quorn Hot Dogs
 Breaded Cod
 ON THE SIDE
 Peas or beans and Chips
 TO FINISH
 Ice Cream or Ice Lolly

Light bite options available. Daily sandwiches, jacket potatoes with fresh daily fillings

Job Vacancies

Care Club assistant (Before School)

Hours:

- **Monday to Friday: 7:45 AM - 8:45 AM**

Role Overview:

As a Care Club assistant, you will play a vital role in providing a safe and engaging environment for our children during the morning and after-school care sessions. You will support children in their activities, ensuring they feel valued and included.

Key Responsibilities:

- **Supervise children in the care club, ensuring their safety and well-being.**
- **Plan and lead engaging activities that promote learning and social interaction.**
- **Foster positive relationships with children, staff, and parents.**
- **Maintain a clean and organised environment.**
- **Collaborate with other staff members to ensure the smooth running of the care club.**

Qualifications and Skills:

- **Experience working with children in a school or care setting is desirable.**
- **A passion for supporting children's development and well-being.**
- **Strong communication and interpersonal skills.**
- **Ability to work as part of a team and independently.**

Other Information

Why Join Us?

- **Be part of a caring and supportive team.**
- **Contribute to the growth and development of our children.**
- **Enjoy a rewarding role in a positive school environment.**

Application Process:

To apply, visit <https://tssmat.staffs.sch.uk/job-vacancies/care-club-assistant-2-roles>. Please complete the application form and a cover letter detailing your experience and suitability for the role. Applications should clearly state which role you are interested in, and be sent to recruitment@tssmat.staffs.sch.uk

Introducing Arbor!

We now have at least one parent per student signed up to Arbor and logging in. Parents can now start ordering meals for their children on Arbor. Meals will be paid for on Arbor by topping up your child's account. Go to quick action, meals and top up account to do this on the website or look for the meals section on the app.

Option A will always be the Meat option and Option B will always be the veggie option
Please start giving this a go and let the office know if you are having any troubles with this.

We will still be checking meals ordered with the children in the mornings.

You can now also book and pay for wraparound care on Arbor, you must still however still download the booking forms and registration forms on the website as shown on the next page.

Arbor is designed to replace many of our current systems, including **ParentPay**, and will become the central hub for various school-related activities. Willow Class will participate in weekly ukulele lessons on Fridays. To support these lessons, we would appreciate your contribution of £40 for a full year of instruction, this payment item should now be visible on your Arbor to make payment. The children had their first lesson today and thoroughly enjoyed it!

We understand that adopting a new system takes time, and this will be a gradual process. We are committed to supporting you through this change and look forward to a smooth transition that will lead to a more streamlined and efficient approach to communications and school management for everyone.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Wraparound Care!

We have some exciting news!



**Wraparound Care
Available!!**



**From
September
2025!**

Please go onto the website for booking, registration, medical and policy forms - download and complete and give to the office.
<https://st-andrews-cliftoncampville.staffs.sch.uk/our-school/care-club>

Reminders

A polite reminder that children should not be walking between staff cars at any time for health and safety reasons.

Parents should also not be parking within the school gates to drop children off, due to safety of the children and congestion.

Thank You

Just a friendly reminder about our office hours:

Monday: 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Any messages sent via Dojo or email after these hours will be addressed on the next school day. For any urgent matters during school hours but outside of these times, please contact your child's teacher directly.

Oak Class - On a Wednesday and Thursday after office hours please message Mrs Wardale as Mrs Porter will be unavailable.

Please let us know about any changes to collection arrangements during office hours. You should only message a teacher about these changes if it is a last-minute emergency.

Thank you for your continued support.

TSSMAT Spelling Bee: Getting a 'BUZZ' about Spelling!

The TSSMAT is thrilled to announce the second year of our exciting new Spelling Bee competition, designed to promote high standards in spelling across our schools. This termly event will not only enhance children's spelling skills but also foster a sense of community and friendly competition among peers.

Aims of the Spelling Bee

The School Spelling Bee is set to take place at the end of each term, encouraging children to learn their key spelling words in a supportive and engaging environment.

The initiative aims to:

- Promote High Standards: By focusing on key spelling words, we aim to elevate spelling proficiency across the school.
- Encourage Participation: Every child is invited to take part, regardless of their current spelling abilities. We believe that all children can achieve and aspire to be their best.
- Celebrate Achievements: All participants will be celebrated, with each child receiving a Spelling Bee certificate during our Achievement Assembly.

How does It Work?

To prepare for the competition, we encourage parents and guardians to support their children in learning the key spelling words. A downloadable list of these words is available below.

Here's how the competition will unfold:

1. Class Heats: At the end of each term, class teachers will hold heats within their classes to identify the year group winners.
2. MAT Spelling Bee Competition: In the summer term, the excitement will culminate in a MAT Spelling Bee Competition, where our school will compete against other schools in the academy for the coveted MAT Spelling Bee trophy.
3. Finals and Celebrations: The final event will determine which school will take home the title of Spelling Bee Champion.

Join the Buzz!

We encourage all children across every year group and ability level to participate.

Remember, "You've got to be in it to win it!"

Let's rally together and aim to bring the trophy home to the Mease Schools in 2025!

Together, let's make spelling a fun and rewarding experience for all our children, fostering a love for words and language that will last a lifetime. For further details and to download the key spelling words, please check the website.

St Andrews: <https://st-andrews-cliftoncampville.staffs.sch.uk/children/spelling-bee>

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CONSPIRACY THEORIES

Conspiracy theories are false or misleading beliefs that explain events as secret plots, often involving powerful groups. While once fringe, they are now more accessible through digital media, online influencers and because of algorithmic recommendations. The DfE guidance document, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) explicitly recognises conspiracy theories as potential content risks. This guide will help parents and educators understand the risks, spot the signs, and build children's resilience to conspiracy theories.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNDERMINING TRUST

Conspiracy theories can lead children and young people to distrust democratic institutions and British values, teachers, and even their own families and friends. This erosion of trust makes young people more vulnerable to extremist narratives by isolating them from reliable sources of information.

ONLINE ALGORITHM TRAPS

Social media platforms can often recommend sensationalist content. Once a child engages with one conspiracy-themed video or post, algorithms push more of the same, thereby creating an echo chamber that can intensify their beliefs.

MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT

Exposure to frightening conspiracy content, such as global plots, viruses, or government control, can fuel feelings of anxiety, paranoia, or hopelessness. For some young people, it can trigger prolonged distress or obsessive thinking.

GATEWAY TO EXTREMISM

Conspiracy theories can often overlap with extremist ideologies. Narratives that blame specific groups, such as politicians, scientists, or particular ethnic groups, can groom children in ways that foster hate, bigotry, and radicalisation.

CONFLICT WITH PEERS

Belief in conspiracy theories can lead to isolation or conflict at school. Children may struggle with peer relationships if they express these beliefs or become distrustful of others who disagree; sometimes, confrontation can even result in a strengthening of the belief in the conspiracy theory.

ERODED CRITICAL THINKING

Young people influenced by conspiracies may reject evidence-based learning. This risks undermining their academic progress and weakening their ability to think critically, assess risks, or engage in healthy debate.

Advice for Parents & Educators

I WANT TO BELIEVE

CREATE SAFE CONVERSATIONS

Don't mock or dismiss any questions that children and young people ask about conspiracy theories. Instead, create open, judgement-free spaces to talk. This strengthens trust and makes it more likely they will confide in you.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Teach young people how to assess information critically. Encourage them to ask appropriate questions, such as: 'Who is telling me this? What evidence is there? What do other trusted sources say?' Use real examples from current media to explain your answers and reasoning.

MONITOR DIGITAL BEHAVIOUR

Be aware of the content children are accessing, especially on platforms such as TikTok, YouTube, or Reddit. Use parental controls, but more importantly, maintain ongoing dialogue about online experiences and influencers.

REINFORCE RELIABLE SOURCES

Point children toward trustworthy and reliable sources of news and information in a variety of formats tailored to the young person's age. Build habits of verifying facts using reliable sources, and teach them how to spot misleading content.

Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keeffe is a headteacher and digital education consultant with over a decade of experience in education. As Director of Digital Strategy across multiple schools and an advisor to The National College, he specialises in digital safety, PREVENT, and pastoral care.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://thenationalcollege.com/guides/conspiracy-theories>

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Term Dates 2025-2026

Autumn Term 2025

Holiday: Monday 27 October – Friday 31 October

TSSMAT Inset day: Monday 3 November

Term Ends: Friday 19 December

Holiday: Monday 22 December – Friday 2 January

Spring Term 2026

Inset Day: Monday 5 January

Term Starts: Tuesday 6 January

Holiday: Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February

Term Ends: Friday 27 March

Holiday: Monday 30 March – Friday 10 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 5 April

Summer Term 2026

Term Starts: Monday 13 April

May Day: Monday 4 May

Holiday: Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May

Term Ends: Friday 17 July

Inset: Monday 20 July

Holiday: Monday 20 July – Monday 31 August

