



St. Andrew's C.E. Primary School Newsletter

Monday 21st October 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of Term 1 we are hopeful that the final stage of the roof repair is complete. If so, the scaffolding should be removed over half term and we will have our school back. The section 77 request for the new classrooms has just been approved so things should start moving forward in that area too.

Attached to this newsletter is the result from the June parent survey. I have also added the written feedback we received and some responses below.

The good features of the school were:

Welcoming and friendly atmosphere with staff that care

Teachers are hardworking/committed & compassionate

Approachable staff and headteacher

Early Morning Interventions (EMIs)

Swimming Pool

Extra-curricular activities and great opportunities to try many different things

Happy/safe children

Children enjoy going to school

WAC – great activities for all children

School Gateway app very easy to use

Strong standing as a church and community school

The school's commitment to its Christian values are clear and provide a positive and happy environment.

EYFS teachers are very experienced teachers. It is such an important year.

Suggested improvements: *My responses are in blue italics*

A homework club for older children. *This could be something we trial later in the year to test demand.*

More regular updates on my child's progress and advice on how to help if needed in EYFS.

The teachers are piloting an approach similar to nursery settings.

More varied extra-curricular activities i.e. craft/art or music rather than always sports *Please see the extensive list of clubs on the website.*

Introduction of staff-parent emails for direct contact for privacy rather than being overhead in playground by others *This would put a greater demand on teachers with an already heavy workload as it could develop into less urgent requests and therefore increase in number.*

Parents are able to make appointments if they need a private conversation.

More trips – *SASA kindly fund trips for every year group. We do run other trips but we have to consider the cost implications for all families.*

More information on a monthly basis as to what is being done in the classroom. *There is a topic web for every year group on the website and there is also a curriculum map for the whole year. Parents are invited in at different points of the year including parents evening.*

More outdoor play resources for KS1 & KS2 *Mr Clark has been employed for extra hours and we are purchasing much more equipment to develop this area. Some of this is funded by SASA and some from the school budget.*

I should like to thank you for your continued support and suggestions to develop our school.

Mrs Chapman (IT Leader) organised the Google Be Internet Legends team to come to our school on Wednesday 2nd October, to teach the Key Stage 2 pupils the skills they need, to be safe, confident explorers of the online world. The assembly focused on five core pillars and incorporated characters from an imaginary world Interland. The pillars were: **Be Internet Sharp, Be Internet Alert, Be Internet Secure, Be Internet Kind and Be Internet Brave.** These areas and Interland will be explored further in Computing lessons. The children learned many key principles of internet safety and had lots of fun too.



South Africa link school



Mrs Ludlow and Mrs Milligan touched down safely in South Africa this weekend. They stayed overnight in Port Elizabeth then drove to Fort Beaufort on Sunday, stopping at the Addo Elephant Park on the way, where they saw lions, zebra, Kudu, buffalo, a tortoise and, of course, elephants.

They met Mrs Yoyo and the Head teacher of Nqaba school, Mr Mboto. Mrs Yoyo is looking forward to growing even more vegetables in the school garden. Her pupils have been learning about compost and Mrs Ludlow will show them the work that our children have done with their projects. School starts at 8am with assembly outside in the yard, but they do finish at 1.30pm!

I look forward to seeing you this week at parents' evening and on Friday afternoon 2pm when you are able to come see your children's work.

Annette Mashru - Headteacher