



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

Wednesday 18th December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,



Christmas started for school on Wednesday 4th December at the Thame Carol Concert. It was one of the many concerts our choirs attended over the Christmas period.

This was followed on the Saturday, by the school Christmas Fayre. There was a fantastic atmosphere at the event and SASA worked so hard to ensure everyone had a great day. Father Christmas was kept very busy in the grotto, lots of wonderful prizes were won and the choir sang their hearts out. Thank you to the SASA team for

their continued hard work to make it such a success and raising **£2337**.

Every day last week there was a performance of some form. We started with KS1 Christmas productions which were wonderful. Foundation stage won our hearts with their confident performance. This was followed by an equally stunning year 3 nativity on Friday afternoon. Thank you for supporting the children and attending these events.

In order to make sure KS2 parents didn't feel left out we had a carol concert on Thursday. The audience were entertained with several carols and reminded of the Christmas story by the readers from our school community.

Thank you to amazing St Andrew's team for all their hard work to produce these very special events which everyone looks forward to every year.



Wishing you and your families a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Annette Mashru - Headteacher





Sadly, Mrs Smith is moving away from Chinnor and will be too far from our school to continue working here. She has been with us for nearly 11 years, firstly as an administrator then as a TA. Mrs Smith helped launch our Wrap Around Care provision and lead the team as the Double Decker Club supervisor. We wish Mrs Smith every happiness in her new home.

Well done to Mrs Ray for achieving a Long Service award of 25 years from Oxfordshire County Council. That is some achievement in education.



We achieved a silver award as a Rights Respecting School.

Well done to Miss Atkins and the team of staff and governors who supported the award. Here is some of the feedback.

Pupils gave several examples of rights from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Children are able to learn about rights through displays, class charters and aspects of the curriculum.

There is a strategic commitment by the school to the principles of the Convention. The headteacher explained that “everything we do across the school links to being a rights respecting school” and that this complements the school’s values and “dovetails into everything”.

Staff, parents and governors are very supportive of St Andrew’s rights respecting work. The wider school community is kept informed with information on the website, newsletters and there is also a RRSA link governor. Staff have received training and regular updates from the coordinator about the RRSA. Comments highlighting the positive impact of the school’s rights respecting approach included how children’s awareness and empathy towards others has grown and as the coordinator explained pupils are “aware that everybody has these rights” and “want to make a difference”.

Respect is an integral part of the school’s culture and everyday practice. A rights respecting ethos is also being promoted through the school’s Christian values and expectations of being ‘ready, respectful, safe’. Throughout the accreditation visit, a positive and supportive learning environment was evident and in discussions pupils listened carefully and respectfully to the contribution of their peers. Pupils understand that adults are responsible for ensuring that their rights are being facilitated and upheld. Examples given by pupils about how the school helps support their safety included the presence of staff, access to medical care and fire alarm procedures. Pupils are confident that if they had any concerns these would be listened to and taken seriously by staff. When asked, pupils confirmed that they felt safe at school. Learning about e-safety, visits from external organisations, access to ‘worry boxes’ in classes, ‘anti-bullying week’, and year 6 participating in a ‘junior citizen’ event are other examples of how the school supports pupils’ safety.

‘Pupil voice’ is a strength of the school. Two pupil representatives from reception year and above are elected by their peers to form the school council. The council has helped to choose playground equipment, decided on charities to support, carried out learning walks, and with other pupils helps to produce the pupil newsletter. Children’s views were taken into consideration when the school’s new vision statement was being prepared and there are opportunities for pupils to be actively engaged in the life of the school through roles such as junior leaders (year 4), play leaders (year 5), anti-bullying buddies (years 4 and 5) and wellbeing ambassadors (year 6). Children’s awareness of the wider world is being developed in a variety of ways including through assemblies and curriculum activities.